

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLI.]

HONGKONG: THURSDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY, 1895.

No. 7.

CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	100
Leading Articles:—	
The Capture of Weihaiwei	110
The War and its Position	110
Trade between Japan and Australia	111
Heavy Fines under the Building Ordinance	111
Russia and England	112
The Election of a Member of Council by the Chamber of Commerce	112
A Legislative Council for Siam	113
The Production of Gold	113
The War	113
Contravening the Building Ordinance	116
Distribution of Ambulance Certificates	118
Impudent Frauds in the Colony	118
The Murder in Winglok Street	119
The N. D. L. Steamer <i>Prinz Heinrich</i>	119
The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited	119
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited	119
The China Fire Insurance Co., Limited	120
The Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Limited	120
Hongkong Ice Co., Limited	121
Green Island Cement Co., Limited	121
The Dairy Farm Co., Limited	121
The Puijiam Mining Co., Limited	122
Hongkong Golf Club	122
Cricket	123
Hongkong Rifle Association	123
Correspondence:—	
Contravention of the Building Ordinance	123
The Water Squeeze	123
Projected Railways	124
The Fantomime	124
Hongkong News	125
Commercial	126
Shipping	128

BIRTHS.

On the 10th February, at 13, Praya East, the wife of W. G. WINTERBURN, of a son (stillborn). [379]
At 3, West Terrace, on the 11th February, the wife of BUCHER BRABEZON BROOKE PIGOT, of a daughter. [391]

MARRIAGE.

On the 2nd February, 1895, at H.I.G.M.'s Consulate-General, Shanghai, and afterwards at the Synagogue, "Beth El," HENRY GENSBURGER to SARAH, fourth daughter of M. Haimovitch, Shanghai.

DEATH.

At the Government Civil Hospital, on Saturday, 9th February, 1895, WILLIAM LEES, aged 34 years, late Chief Engineer of the steamer *Pallas*. [398]

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 4th January arrived per M. M. steamer *Saghalien*, on the 7th February (34 days); the American mail of the 15th January arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 11th February (26 days); and the English mail of the 11th January arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Rohilla*, on the 11th February (31 days)

The rates of subscription to the *Hongkong Weekly Press* are \$12 yearly, \$7 half-yearly, and \$4 quarterly, payable in advance; the credit rates are \$13.50, \$8, and \$4.50 respectively. Postage \$2 per annum additional.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Paknam Railway Company, Siam, pays a dividend of 3½ per cent. for the last half year.

It is reported that as a result of a recent memorial to the Throne a railway between the capital and the Yangtze Provinces is to be constructed.

The Hupeh Arsenal, which was burnt down some time ago, has now, we learn from the *Mercury*, been rebuilt. Two ex-prefects, Wang and Hung, have been placed in charge of these works, and ordered to take pains to prevent another fire.

By the mail of the 7th inst. we learn that Major-General G. D. Barker, C.B., obtains promotion to the rank of Lieutenant-General, in consequence of the approaching retirement of Sir D. C. Drury-Lowe, K.C.B.

A Legislative Council has been established in Siam, the functions of which are somewhat similar to those of Legislative Councils in British Crown Colonies. All the members are appointed by the King, nothing in the nature of the elective principle being introduced.

The annual meeting of the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Limited, was held on the 12th inst., when the report and accounts were passed. The net profits, including \$762 brought forward, amounted to \$7,258. A dividend at the rate of 6 per cent., absorbing \$5,850, was declared, and the balance carried forward.

A Reuter's telegram states that the new Chinese loan has not proved successful. The loan referred to is not precisely stated, but presumably it is not the loan of £3,000,000 issued through the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, as this, we hear, was fully subscribed. Possibly there has been an attempt to float another loan through other agency.

The report of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, for the last half-year, shows the sum of \$172,236 available for appropriation. The directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 7 per cent., or \$109,375, be paid to the shareholders, a bonus of \$100 to contributing shareholders, that \$35,000 be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, \$5,000 from the steam launches, and the balance \$22,761 carried to new account.

The annual report of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, shows that the gross revenue for the year was \$275,942, as compared with \$431,473 in the previous year. The net profit at credit of working account, after writing off \$22,792 for repairs to the property and including \$9,225 brought forward, is \$75,924, from which have to be deducted interim dividend \$25,000, directors' fees \$6,000, auditors' \$500, leaving available for appropriation \$44,424. From this it is proposed to pay a final dividend of \$1.75 per share, which, with the \$1.25 paid in July, makes \$3 or 6 per cent. for the year, and to carry forward the balance of \$9,424 to next account.

On the 6th inst., at the Police Court, Mr. Mackintosh, of the firm of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, was fined \$50 in each of four cases in which he was charged with committing infractions of the Building Ordinance in connection with building operations at the Quarry Bay Sugar Refinery, with the alternative, in default of payment, of two months' hard labour. The offences were technical in their character, consisting of omissions to give certain formal notices to the Public Works Department or to apply for permission for certain encroachments. On the 11th inst. Commander Hastings, the presiding Magistrate, reviewed his decision, with the result that the alternative of two months' hard labour was removed, but the fines remained unaltered. The case has excited a good deal of attention and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have addressed the Government on the subject.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Green Island Cement Co., Limited, was held on the 8th inst., when it was intimated that the scheme of reconstruction had failed and that the present General Managers, Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., wished to retire, being unwilling to advance further capital. A resolution was passed appointing Messrs. Shewan & Co. General Managers.

The annual report of the China Fire Insurance Co., Limited, shows a balance of profit on the 1893 account, after payment of the interim dividend of \$3 per share, of \$125,233, which it is proposed to apportion as follows:—\$60,000 to shareholders as a final dividend of \$3 per share, making \$6 for the year; \$27,925 as a bonus to contributors of premia, and the balance, \$37,308, to the credit of working account 1894. The premium income for 1894 shows a good increase, but unfortunately the losses have been greater than in any similar period of the Company's history. The bulk of these occurred in Manila, where two fires, on 21st September and 9th December, involved the Company in several distinct losses, amounting to \$151,023, inclusive of \$20,347 loss in exchange. Whilst deploring these occurrences the directors, after mature consideration, recommend the payment of the same interim dividend as before, viz., \$3 per share.

The island of Linkungtao, which protects the harbour of Weihaiwei, was reported to have been captured by the Japanese on the 7th inst., after a siege of thirteen days, but a later telegram states that it was still unsubdued. The exact position at the moment appears doubtful, but, if not already in the hands of the Japanese, the fortress cannot hold out long. The Chinese vessels *Tingyuen* (flagship, ironclad), *Laiyuen* (armoured cruiser), and three wooden corvettes were sunk by torpedoes, and several torpedo boats were destroyed, but a portion of the Chinese fleet appears to have escaped. The port of Ninghai has also been captured and according to latest reports the Japanese troops were marching on Chefoo to attack that port in the rear. The embassy sent by China to Japan to discuss terms of peace has proved abortive, the credentials of the Ministers not giving them such powers as in the opinion of the Japanese would entitle them to recognition.

In a matter in which China has been erring recently we (*N. C. Daily News*) are glad to see the foreign Ministers in Peking had assumed a pronounced attitude. When it was learned that the former servants of the Japanese Legation in Peking had been thrown into prison and subjected to the dreadful tortures which take their place in the Chinese system of jurisprudence, there was a unanimous opinion that the case concerned all foreigners. We are glad to learn that the foreign Ministers adopted this view, and demanded a cessation of the foolish and wicked torturing of "boys," coolies, and such like, who were obviously ignorant of the designs of the Japanese Legation inhabitants. The Ministers pointed out that according to the Treaties foreigners had the right of employing natives without hindrance, and that the present proceedings were little less than the wreaking of vengeance upon innocent persons. The protest was supported by certain significant remarks as to what might be expected in the event of it being disregarded, and happily it had good results. The Ministers are to be congratulated upon an action which does credit, not only to their humanity, but to their political sagacity.

THE CAPTURE OF WEIHAIWEI.

(9th February.)

Weihaiwei is now completely in the hands of the Japanese, the island of Liukungtao, whose forts protected the eastern and western entrances to the harbour, having been captured after a siege of thirteen days. The telegrams leave us in some doubt as to the fate of the Chinese fleet. It is reported that the ironclads *Tingyuen*, *Chenyuen*, and *Laiyuen* have been torpedoed, but another account says that the *Chenyuen* and four other vessels have escaped. Whatever may be the fact as to these vessels, however, it may be taken for granted that the rest of the Peiyang Squadron at Weihaiwei has been captured. When the Japanese arrived the Chinese vessels remaining in Weihaiwei were reported to be the *Chenyuen*, *Tingyuen*, *Laiyuen*, *Pingyuen*, *Kwangping*, *Weiyuen*, *Kangchi*, and *Chiyuen*, all first class vessels, besides six gunboats and eleven torpedo boats. The captured vessels will go to augment the Japanese fleet, while China is now left without any fleet at all worthy of the name. The blow to China is a crushing one, for it deprives her of all power to impede the movements of the Japanese at sea, and the whole of her coast line lies at the mercy of the invader. The event should increase the desire of the Peking Government to make peace and it may have sufficiently humbled their pride to induce them to sue for it in proper form instead of again going through the farce of sending another such mission as the two which have already been sent to Japan and proved abortive. Japan, having possessed herself of the Chinese fleet, may now be willing to listen to overtures and to forego her projected march on Peking, provided China is prepared to give substantial guarantees of her intention honestly to carry out the conditions imposed upon her; but there will be no suspension of hostilities until the conqueror's terms are complied with and if China indulges in further hesitation and tergiversation she will very soon have the Japanese guns thundering at the gates of her capital, for the way thither is now open.

THE WAR AND ITS POSITION.

(6th February.)

Another principal act in the drama of the war between China and Japan is now being acted—if indeed it has not already been consummated—at Weihaiwei. That port was, at last advices, virtually in the hands of the Japanese. All the forts on the mainland are in their possession, and they were bombarding the fortified island of Liukungtao, which forms one of the strongest defences of the port. The Peiyang Squadron, as we expected, was still in Weihaiwei, the report that the vessels had escaped, mentioned by Reuter, having proved unfounded. Some stand was made by the Chinese at Weihaiwei, probably due to the crews of the men-of-war, and some of the guns of the forts are said to have been well worked, but the final catastrophe could not be long delayed, the combined attack by land and sea being too severe for the Chinese effectively to withstand. The weather seems to have been very unfavourable for operations on the water, as there was a strong gale on the 3rd inst., and that probably retarded the movements of the Japanese ships. No doubt this gale would considerably impede their movements, and may well have been disastrous to the torpedo boats. Neverthe-

less the ultimate success of the Japanese attack could hardly be doubted. The Chinese garrison are reported to have been destitute of case-shot or shrapnel, and it is rumoured that the greater part of the military were emulous of the example of the disreputable generals at Port Arthur, who showed such keen anxiety to be preserved in order to fight again another day. The crews of the Peiyang Squadron had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves, and it will be interesting to learn actually how they utilised it.

Meantime the war is going on steadily in Manchuria, and the reports concerning operations there are of the most various character. The Chinese assert—and the wish is undoubtedly father to the thought—that the Japanese troops are suffering horribly from the rigours of the winter. One report states that no less than one thousand of the Japanese have died from cold, disease, and suicide in a fortnight, and their sufferings are depicted as being so unendurable that the bodies of thirty-seven soldiers who had put a period to their miseries were found in a group by a detachment of Mongol cavalry scouting among the hills to the east of Haicheng. If no one else believes these stories, the Imperial War Commissioner Wu TA-CHENG seems to give them full credit, for he has issued a proclamation to the Japanese soldiers, in which after setting forth his own great resources—fifty battalions of armed coolies—to show the utter hopelessness of contending with so mighty a host and so puissant a commander, he appeals to them to cease making their bodies a target for Chinese bullets and invites them to desert from their commanders and seek shelter, rations, and safety in his camp. If, says the artless Wu, you Japanese soldiers "should be defeated and have no place to run away to, wherever you should see my signal-boards bearing the words 'Surrender and avoid death' you may at once present yourselves to the officers in charge, who are also delegated to the duty on account of their reputation for charity and justice; you must then throw down your arms and prostrate yourselves before the signal. You will then be received into our encampments and given two meals a day and exactly the same treatment as our own people. You will not be put to hard labour, and when peace is restored you will be sent back to your homes to meet your wives and sons once more." This charming picture of Chinese clemency and benevolence is in such vivid contrast to the actual treatment accorded to those Japanese who have been so unfortunate as to fall into the hands of Chinese Generals hitherto that the Japanese soldiers may be pardoned if they treat Commissioner Wu's assurances with mild incredulity. The fate of Japanese prisoners has commonly been torture first and dismemberment subsequently, and the dreadful fate of some of their countrymen at Port Arthur must still be rather vividly in the recollection of the soldiers of the First Army Corps in Manchuria. Wu makes the mistake of treating the Japanese soldiers as he would his own troops. He fails to credit the Japanese with any loyalty or patriotism because those sentiments are unknown in the Chinese ranks. But there will be no desertions from the ranks of the Japanese. They may be conscript soldiers, but they have a strong love of country, deep devotion to the Mikado, and the habit of obedience to their officers, the result of good training and discipline. And, as a matter of fact, the Japanese armies are in a far better case than the troops under Wu TA-CHENG. They are provided with ample supplies of food and clothing, including

thick wadded coats, and if, as is possible, there is some scarcity of fuel among them and they do feel the cold somewhat severely they are certainly not in the parlous condition described by the Chinese reports. Moreover, they have established themselves in such positions in Manchuria as to be complete masters of the situation there. Haicheng has been fortified in such a manner, taking advantage of its favourable situation, as to be now virtually impregnable to attack, and the other positions held by the Japanese have also been secured, while the inhabitants of the surrounding districts have been conciliated by the respect paid by the invaders to the rights of property and to the persons of the vanquished, a policy contrasting so favourably with the course pursued by the undisciplined rabble hosts of the Chinese army that the advent of the strangers has in many cases been hailed as a welcome deliverance from the plundering Chinese "brave."

The collapse of the peace negotiations in their very inception is hardly more than might have been anticipated. We were never sanguine of their success, and have pointed out some of the possible stumbling blocks in the way. The Japanese Government, knowing the character of the Chinese for treachery and bad faith, would naturally require the fullest assurances of the powers of the Envoys before they entered upon negotiations with them. To judge from the report telegraphed by Reuter, their credentials were not found satisfactory, and the Envoys seem to have been summarily dismissed, and are now on their return to China. The Envoys themselves were probably not regarded with any great personal favour in Tokyo. Neither by rank nor by reputation were they likely to command any particular respect. SHAO YU-LIEN, more especially, as the author of the first proclamation offering rewards for Japanese heads, could not expect to meet a very cordial reception in the capital of Japan. Before any proposals for a settlement of the quarrel are likely to meet with much approval in Japan, the Japanese Government will require to be pretty well satisfied of the sincerity of the Chinese in desiring peace. After the somewhat humiliating manner in which the Chinese Envoys were sent packing it is probable that no immediate attempt will be made by either party to renew peace negotiations, and it is not unlikely that the Japanese Government, feeling indisposed to be drawn into any armistice, are satisfied to let matters drift until the Chinese are ready to sue for peace on such terms as the victors may dictate. Long ago we expressed the opinion that any negotiations preliminary to the occupation of Peking by the Japanese would fail, and there seems little reason to alter that opinion. The Chinese officials are not yet sufficiently convinced of the hopelessness of the conflict (*vide* Wu TA-CHENG's proclamation to the Japanese soldiers) to be ready to treat as the defeated party, and the Japanese will not abate their demands sufficiently to render them acceptable to Peking. The hostilities will therefore proceed, notwithstanding the loss of Weihaiwei and all control over the coasts. The conviction of the inutility of further efforts will only penetrate the minds of the mandarins when internal disorder, and possible revolution, confronts them. The fall of Peking merely might fail to sufficiently impress them, and it may be necessary to carry the war to the central provinces or even to Kwangtung before Celestial obstinacy gives way. It is, however, to be hoped most sincerely that the war will not be greatly prolonged, for not only does it militate against trade but it also serves to arrest all progress and development.

TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

The press in Japan, both native and foreign, has given some attention to the visit of Mr. JEROME DYER, who has been commissioned by a group of Australian merchants and producers to promote a more extensive trade between the two countries. The *Japan Gazette*, after noting a controversy between the Kobe papers, goes on to say:—"For ourselves we really fail to see what Mr. DYER's mission is expected to achieve. The merchants in Japan are fully alive to the advantages of new markets and had Australia offered opportunities of any moment they would have been seized with avidity. Australia has only a population of some 5,000,000, a population burdened with debt and distributed over a wide area of territory. Obviously there is a limit to its consumption of curios and of rice. As to Japan, frozen mutton is not, nor for many years to come will be, a popular dish, and very few persons can afford wool. There is doubtless room for a certain expansion of the present trade, but that expansion cannot be accomplished, though it may be assisted, by an exchange of courtesies between Government officials. It must come through the medium of private enterprise, and private enterprise does not flourish when business is unremunerative. If Mr. DYER wishes to test the honesty of Japanese merchants by giving them extensive credit, by all means let him attempt the experiment. Experience is a harsh but effective teacher." Writing of this description is as useful for the purpose of advertising the mission as laudatory comments would be, perhaps even more so, and on that ground will no doubt be appreciated by Mr. DYER, though it does not display much perspicuity on the part of the writer. To say that because Japanese merchants are alive to their own interests therefore it is useless for the Australians to trouble themselves is carrying the doctrine of *laissez faire* to its most absurd conclusion. The immense trade now done with England in Australian products has been built up not so much by the independent efforts of English importers, who are as much alive to their own interests as are the Japanese, but by the vigour the Australians have displayed in pushing their goods and cultivating the market. The attempt of the Australians to open up a large trade with Japan may prove less successful than the promoters hope, but no one can blame them for making the trial; on the contrary, their action is, like all other legitimate developments of commercial activity, worthy of commendation. Commercial and industrial exhibitions are held for the purpose of enabling people who are alive to their own interests to learn more of each other's productions, and such missions as that of Mr. DYER are despatched in pursuance of the same policy.

Although no large development of the trade between Australia and Japan may take place immediately there can be little doubt that the commercial relations between the two countries are destined ultimately to be very close. The *Melbourne Argus*, in its commercial column, referring some little time ago to the new treaty, said:—"One of the articles of the treaty concluded between Great Britain and Japan is of vital importance to the Australian colonies, and should lead to immediate action being taken. For it is not only the present but the future of the commerce of the Pacific Ocean—and a Commonwealth of Australia will be a Pacific power—that

has to be taken into account. In the twentieth century the Pacific will probably be dominated by four powers principally, viz., Federated Australia, Japan, Chili, and California (as representative of the United States). Between Australia and Japan a large trade will have sprung up, and the preservation of amity between the two countries will have become a question of supreme importance." Japan by the war with China has brought herself into prominence as a great power, and in obedience to the spirit of enterprise and progression that characterises her people, she will, in the natural course of things, seek to extend the sphere of her influence, both commercial and political. The Japanese population in Hawaii, which already numbers some twenty-six thousand, are said to be making their presence felt there, and Japan will no doubt be prepared to keep a close watch on their interests, possibly even to use force for the protection of those interests should she deem it necessary. Trade is also being pushed with the Philippines, and before long Japanese commercial activity will likewise be felt in the Netherlands Indies. There is abundant warrant, therefore, for the prophecy that Japan will become one of the dominating powers of the Pacific, and as such she will be brought into close relations with Australia. An Australian correspondent of the *Japan Mail* suggests, however, that there are serious difficulties in the way of Australia's participating in the benefits to be derived from the stipulations of the new treaty, on account of her policy with regard to immigration. The members of the labour party, he says, would scout the idea of allowing Japanese to enjoy equal rights with Victorians, and notwithstanding that the merchants, manufacturers, and producers of Victoria are anxious to establish markets for their produce in Japan, as shown by Mr. DYER's mission, as long as existing laws remain in force, Australia's commercial dealings with Japan must be very limited compared with the trade of countries that are prepared to follow England's new departure. The self-governing colonies, it will be remembered, are excluded from the operation of the treaty unless notice of their desire to be included is given within a specified period. As regards Australia the immigration question undoubtedly presents a serious difficulty, but it may perhaps be surmounted. In the treaty recently concluded with America Japan has conceded America's right to control immigration as she may think fit, and possibly a similar agreement might be arrived at with regard to Australia and embodied in a supplementary treaty or convention.

HEAVY FINES UNDER THE BUILDING ORDINANCE.

When Commander HASTINGS reviewed his decision yesterday in the case of Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE's infraction of the Building Ordinance he said "he was sorry if he had hurt anybody's feelings." But hurting people's feelings is a small matter; what a Magistrate has to look to is to do justice. By removing the offensive alternative of two months' hard labour which he originally imposed in the case Commander HASTINGS modified the injustice of his original decision but he allowed the fines, amounting to \$200, to remain, although the penalty appears altogether out of proportion to the offence. The mere amount of the fine is of course a matter of small consideration, except that it implies that in the Magistrate's opinion the offence was a grave one, whereas in fact it was a purely technical and trivial one. In imposing the alternative of hard labour in

his original decision Commander HASTINGS says he acted under Section 39 of the Magistrates Ordinance, which section provides that where, as in the case of the Building Ordinance, no mode of levying a fine is expressly provided, a distress warrant may be issued, but that where it shall appear to the Magistrate that the issuing of a distress warrant "would be ruinous to the defendant and his family" the defendant may instead be committed to prison with or without hard labour. Commander HASTINGS has arrived at the conclusion that to impose imprisonment in the present case under that section was to put a strained construction upon it. Not only a strained construction, his Worship might have added, but a supremely ridiculous one. The section of the Magistrates Ordinance under which he might more appropriately have proceeded would have been section 31, which provides that where the Magistrate thinks a charge is proved but the offence is in the particular case of so trifling a nature that it is inexpedient to inflict any punishment, or any other than a nominal punishment, he may dismiss the complaint without proceeding to a conviction. The offence committed by Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE was essentially trivial and resulted entirely from inadvertence. We agree, necessarily, with the contention of a correspondent whose letter will be found in another column that no special consideration should be shown to Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE on account of the amount they contribute to the revenue or on account of their position. Before the law all men are equal. No matter who the defendants had been the penalty inflicted would have been out of all proportion to the offence, which was simply failure to give notice to the Public Works Department of certain works which were being carried out in connection with the sugar refinery at Quarry Bay or to apply for permission for certain technical encroachments. Had the works been such that the department could not have approved of them there might have been a suspicion that the firm wished by proceeding clandestinely to evade the requirements of the Building Ordinance. But there was no suggestion of anything of that kind, and as regards one of the charges the permission that should have been applied for in the first instance was actually applied for and granted before the summons came on for hearing. In such a case as that the infliction of anything in the nature of a deterrent penalty was obviously uncalled for. Some responsibility for the result of the Police Court proceedings perhaps rests on the defendants for not having taken steps to place their defence as fully and clearly before the Magistrate as they did in their letter to the Government after the conviction, but they were apparently under the impression that the case was not one of which a serious view could possibly be taken and that their admission that a technical offence had been committed would naturally have been followed by the infliction of a nominal penalty only. What the object of the Public Works Department could have been in instituting the prosecution we fail to perceive, and the Magistrate's decision appears out of all reason, even after the modification given to it yesterday. Such proceedings only serve to bring the public service and the administration of justice into contempt. We have a good sample of the character of Government work in the drafting of the Building Ordinance, which, now that its defects have been brought into prominence, will have to be amended by another Ordinance. Section 84, for instance, provides penalties for infractions of sections 51 to 66 both inclusive, while the side-note reads,

"Fine for offences against secs. 58 to 69." It seems impossible that the penalties can be intended to apply to sections 54, 55, and 56, which authorise the Public Works Department to take down dangerous buildings at the owner's cost in cases where the owner cannot be found or neglects to render his property safe himself. The only person who could offend against section 56 is the Director of Public Works and it can hardly have been the intention of the Government that that official should be dealt with in the way that Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE have been dealt with.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

The January number of the *Contemporary Review* contains a paper by Canon MACCOLL on Russia and England, in which the writer seeks to show that the two countries have no opposing interests, that a Russian invasion of India would be opposed to Russia's self-interest, that the fear of such a design is simply a political nightmare, and that Russia does not even desire the possession of Constantinople, which would also be opposed to her self-interest. We may perhaps accept the Canon's conclusions, but the arguments on which they are founded do not appear very convincing. It might have been predicated of almost every great conqueror that his designs were opposed to his country's interest, as the result has generally proved them to be, but such designs have nevertheless been carried into effect. A warlike and ambitious Czar, desirous of military glory, might not take the same view of Russia's self-interest that Canon MACCOLL does and might make light of the difficulties that to the Canon seem so insuperable. It is necessary that Russian policy should be narrowly watched by England, for Russian aggrandisement means the closing of ports and the shutting out of English trade, and of the earth hunger of Russia history affords only too conclusive proof. Nevertheless it is desirable that cordial relations between the two countries should be cultivated. England must be prepared to protect her own territory and her own interests without relying on Russian promises of complaisance, but, her own position being made secure, it will be sound policy to abstain from unnecessary interference with Russia in the extension and development of her empire. As Canon MACCOLL says, "Russia is bound to find a free outlet to the sea, and if she is forbidden it at the Dardanelles, she will take it in the Persian Gulf. For my part I see no objection, from the point of view of British interests, to her having it in both places." Granting that Russia can have no possible motive for troubling us in India or elsewhere, if we do not wantonly frustrate her legitimate aspirations by foolishly fighting the battles of other people, the Russian fleets in the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea would have every inducement to cultivate the friendship, none to provoke the hostility, of the fleets of England." By endeavouring to keep Russia shut in from the sea England only cultivates the ill-will of that country and adds to the danger of the dogs of war breaking loose. The rapprochement which has taken place within the last few months must from every point of view be regarded with satisfaction and that it may continue permanently must be the fervent hope of every lover of peace.

It is interesting to note what Canon MACCOLL has to say about Constantinople. Nine out of ten Englishmen regard the Sultan's capital as the goal of Russian ambition. Nothing of the sort, holds the Canon, and he says there is no doubt the Emperor NICHOLAS might have occupied Constantinople in 1829, had he wished to do so, but he

refrained on grounds of policy; and prior to the outbreak of the Crimean war the Emperor in conversation with the British Minister said:—"If an Emperor of Russia should one day chance to conquer Constantinople, or should find himself forced to occupy it permanently, and fortify it with a view to making it impregnable, from that day would date the decline of Russia. If I did not transfer my residence to the Bosphorus, my son, or at least my grandson, would. The change would certainly be made sooner or later; for the Bosphorus is warmer, more agreeable, more beautiful than Petersburg or Moscow; and if once the Czar were to take up his abode at Constantinople, Russia would cease to be Russia. No Russian would like that. There is not a Russian who would not like a Christian crusade for the delivery of the Mosque of St. Sophia; I should like it as much as any. But nobody would like to see the Kremlin transported to the Seven Towns." This, says Canon MACCOLL, has been the settled policy of Russia, as expounded by her leading statesmen and newspapers, from the time of NICHOLAS to our own. But, he adds, there is one argument against Russia's possession of Constantinople which renders all other arguments superfluous, inasmuch as it is decisive—the argument of impossibility in the present condition of the political world. If England gave Russia *carte blanche* to occupy Constantinople there are at least two great Powers and several small ones which would step immediately to the front and put a veto on such acquisition. The Powers he refers to are Germany and Austria, Roumania, Bulgaria, and Servia, and "we have, in fact, been all these years foolishly pulling the chestnuts out of the fire for other people to our own serious risk and damage." But when Canon MACCOLL goes on to speak of Russia in the role of deliverer of oppressed nationalities we cannot but recall the persecutions of which Russia has herself been guilty, the bitter oppression of the Poles, the Jews, the Roman Catholics, and the various dissenting sects. So long as this policy of persecution continues there can be little real cordiality on the part of the liberty loving people of England towards the Russian nation. There seems some hope, however, that the new Czar, without abandoning his autocratic power, intends to accord more liberty of conscience than has hitherto prevailed in his dominions. And in any case Russian rule, however defective, is superior to that of the Turk. As to the general relations to be maintained between England and Russia, our policy should be, while not neglecting the efficient protection of our own interests, to avoid, as far as possible, all interference with those of Russia.

THE ELECTION OF A MEMBER OF COUNCIL BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

A representation has been made to the Governor of the Straits Settlements by a number of Penang residents concerning what is termed the unrepresentative nature of the body which in that Settlement now nominates a member of the Legislative Council. The body referred to is of course the Chamber of Commerce. The signatories to the letter are apparently not themselves members of the Chamber, and they urge that they are entitled to representation. "We hold," they say, "that no member of the Chamber should have a preference over us, the undersigned, in selecting a nominee for the approval of the Government, as we would all

"be entitled to a vote for the Imperial Parliament if residing in the United Kingdom. Indeed many of us are householders and therefore voters in the United Kingdom, having to keep up two establishments, one at home and one here. Much less then should foreigners, who amount to one-third of the nominating body as at present constituted, have a preference over us in political matters." They claim the inalienable right of Britons to contribute to their own Government" and, that British subjects resident for twelve months previously within the Settlement and being members of the following associations might be added to the present nominating body with advantage to the community:—Members of the Bar of the Straits Settlements, members of the medical profession who have taken their degrees in the United Kingdom, Masters of Arts and Bachelors of Arts who have taken their degrees at any of the Universities in the United Kingdom, members and associates of the Institute of Civil Engineers, members and associates of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, members of the Penang and Province Wellesley Planters' Association, members and associates of the Engineers' Institute of Penang, and members and associates of the Penang Marine Association. The suggestion appears worthy of consideration, not only as regards Penang, but this colony also, so far as regards the principle involved. Whether a wider constituency would result in the selection of better representatives may perhaps be doubted, for hitherto the number of candidates who have offered themselves for election has been very limited and the probability is that even had the electing bodies been differently constituted precisely the same men would have been selected as members of the Legislative Council. That, however, is merely a matter of speculation; it might happen at some period of the colony's future history that the community might be divided on a question of principle and that candidates representing opposite sides might present themselves. In the contested elections that have hitherto taken place, whether by the Chamber of Commerce or the Bench of Justices, the matter has been decided by the personal qualifications of the candidates, no division on a question of principle having arisen. Should public opinion on any grave question ever become sharply divided, however, we must suppose, if there is any truth at all in the doctrine of government by majorities, that the man best qualified to advise the Governor would be the one who commanded the confidence and support of the larger part of the community. Under any circumstances it seems an anomaly that the selection of members to fill the seats in the Legislative Council to which appointments are not made by the Government directly should be entrusted to bodies which are themselves only to a limited extent representative. Most of the members of the Chamber of Commerce are also Justices of the Peace and so have the opportunity of voting in both capacities, while professional men who do not happen to be Justices of the Peace have for the most part no opportunity of voting at all. Lawyers, doctors, architects, and engineers do not as a rule join the Chamber of Commerce and they are not all included in the list of Justices of the Peace, solicitors in fact being ineligible for appointment as Justices, while retail trade is almost entirely unrepresented. Some change, therefore, would seem desirable, but instead of increasing the number of Societies or Associations that may take part in the election, as suggested by the Penang paper, it would be better, we think, to make the constituency the same as that

which elects the representative members of the Sanitary Board, namely, all British subjects on the jury list.

A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR SIAM.

An important step has been taken in Siam in the creation of a Legislative Council for the Kingdom. This body met for the first time on the 24th ult., when the King's message was read. The Council is not elective, but is appointed by the King direct, and independent power of legislation remains with His Majesty. The creation of the Council, however, appears to be intended as the first step in the introduction of constitutional government. The duty of the new body is stated in the message to be to help the King in all matters regarding legislation, his Majesty having been from the beginning of his reign of opinion that it would be good to have a body of wise and able men to assemble for the purpose of helping him to alter old laws and make new ones. There is no direct suggestion in the Royal message of any intention to introduce representative government, but there can be little doubt, we think, that the institution of the Legislative Council is intended to pave the way for such a change, to be introduced after a term of years. In the meantime His Majesty warns his councillors to proceed cautiously. "You may," he says, "in many cases, be compelled to consult the laws obtaining in foreign countries and states. But we trust you will take into account the circumstances of the country wherein we live. Our work of reform must be firm and wise. We need not change or amend all the existing customs, nor need we blindly follow the customs of other countries, but we have to gradually improve things which require improvement, and to repeal everything which we surely know to be bad and obsolete. In all countries, and especially in this one, there are many customs which must be respected, not only because they are as old as the nation and so are wedded to the people, but also because the abolition of old customs will be a source both of danger to the Kingdom and of unhappiness to the people. May you all help us in carrying out this reform not only with firmness and perseverance, but also with prudence and discretion. In acting thus you will be contributing to the progress of Siam, and earn our thanks and those of the people of Siam." There are in Siam many things which require improvement, many things which are bad and obsolete and call for repeal. The country has before it the examples of Japan and China and from the recent history of the two nations cannot fail to draw the lesson that in a progressive policy lies her own hope of safety. Those countries of Asia which adhere rigidly to old time ideas and to the corruption of the mandarin system are inevitably doomed to come under the domination of more energetic and progressive powers. China has now lost almost the last of her tributaries, Tibet being the only one of any consequence remaining, and she is herself threatened with disruption. Japan, on the other hand, has frankly adopted the policy of reform and advancement, and in the brief space of twenty-five years has attained a position of power and influence which commands universal respect. The difference between the positions now occupied by Japan and China is no doubt due more to the difference in the characters of the two peoples than to the difference in their institutions, but the latter have nevertheless had a potent effect on the course of events. For a nation like Siam,

which is now brought into immediate contact with European powers on her frontiers and whose foreign policy is beset with embarrassments, the lesson is not without significance. The spirit of progress is, indeed, already active in the country. Tramways run in the capital city, railways have been introduced on a small scale and larger schemes are under consideration, the social intercourse between the natives and foreigners is on a higher plane of mutual courtesy and good-will than in China, and last but not least, a Legislative Council has been introduced to pave the way, as we believe, for constitutional reform. And reform is sadly needed, for the trail of official corruption rests almost as thickly on the administration of Siam as on that of China, sapping the vitals of the nation, rendering it powerless for resistance to foreign aggression, and impeding commercial and industrial development. The King in his message reminds the Council that the chief object in view of legislators is to secure the protection of person and property of those for whom the legislation is framed, and to promote to the utmost of their power the welfare and peace of the inhabitants. And he enumerates several measures in connection with the improvement of the criminal law which will be submitted for the consideration of the Council, as well as some others in connection with such matters as pawnshops, mining, navigation of the rivers, and customs. It seems not improbable, therefore, that Siam will before very many years have passed be in possession of civil and criminal codes worthy of some respect and that the country will be fairly launched on a career of progress. It is not to be supposed that she will astonish the world as Japan has done, for her people are not endowed with the same restless energy and power of adaptation, but she is evidently determined to follow the lead of the Land of the Rising Sun rather than to lag behind with China.

THE PRODUCTION OF GOLD.

The production of gold last year is said to have amounted to £36,200,000. From an average of about £20,000,000, at which the gold production had been stationary for several years, the value rose in 1890 to £24,700,000, in 1891 to £27,300,000, in 1892 to £30,480,000, in 1893 to £32,400,000, and in 1894 to £36,200,000 (estimated.) These figures are taken from a letter by Mr. H. Bruns to the *Economist*, who adduces them in support of the contention that a period of commercial revival has now set in. The previous record year of gold production was 1853, with £32,300,000. If it be true that the great influx of gold at that period was one of the main causes of the commercial prosperity that followed we may suppose that the present influx of gold will be followed by like results. It must be remembered, however, that gold has now increased work to perform, in consequence of the demonetisation of silver. The increase in the production of the last few years, being required to fill up the vacuum caused by the withdrawal of silver, has not been available for industrial and commercial extension to the extent that the increase during the fifties was; otherwise it would have been reasonable to expect that the annual increase in the production which has been going on for the last five years would already have begun to operate in the direction of causing a general rise in the prices of commodities. The opinion seems to prevail amongst experts, however, that we are now on the eve of such a rise. The present visible increase in gold production

as compared with what it was five years ago amounts to thirty-three per cent., and there is every prospect of the increase continuing in a growing ratio. The South African mines are still in an early stage of their development, while the West Australian mines have hardly been more than proved; the Siberian mines are to be exploited, and there is a growing activity in gold mining in the United States and other parts of the world, due to scientific discoveries making it pay to work low grade ore. With the yield from all these sources it may be supposed that trade will prosper in proportion to the increase in the volume of the circulating medium. Whether the production of gold will advance in a ratio so much greater than that of silver as to cause any sensible recovery in the gold price of the white metal remains to be seen, but there is an evident disposition on the part of investors once more to look at silver securities.

THE WAR.

CAPTURE OF LIUKUNGTAO. THE CHINESE IRONCLADS TORPEDOED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS"]
SHANGHAI, 8th February.

Liukungtao (Weihaiwei) has been captured by the Japanese. The Chinese ironclads were torpedoed.

The Japanese lost two torpedo boats. The Japanese have taken Ninghai (near Chefoo).

Another account says the *Chenyuen* and four other Chinese vessels escaped; where they have gone is unknown.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 9th February.

The Japanese made a night attack on the island of Liu-kung-tao on the 5th instant. The ironclads *Ting Yuen* and *Chen Yuen* were sunk by torpedoes and the island is virtually in the hands of the Japanese.

Japanese troops have landed near Chefoo and yesterday commenced to bombard the Eastern and Western forts of that port. The foreigners are under arms and the gates of the city are closed and barricades erected.

LONDON, 11th February.

Of thirteen Chinese torpedo boats attempting to escape from Weihaiwei ten were captured, two sunk, and one got away.

Japanese despatches state that in the attacks on the nights of the 5th and 6th several of their torpedo boats were sunk or disabled. It is believed that in all six Chinese ships were torpedoed. The island of Liukungtao was captured on the 7th.

LONDON, 12th February.

Full powers have been sent to the Chinese Envoys, who are still in Japan, to enable them to renew parlayings.

THE OPERATIONS AT WEIHAIWEI.

[Special Telegram to the *Shanghai Mercury*.]
Yokohama, 1st February.

A telegram, dated from Talienwan, 1st instant, from the Third Army, states that on the 30th January the second division captured the eminence of Sunglinchan and bivouacked there. On the 31st they began assaulting another eminence south-west from Paichiyaso, and the Japanese navy simultaneously bombarded the Paichiyaso forts. The sixth division began the advance at 2 o'clock in the morning. By nine in the morning they had taken possession of most of the Chinese lines of defence, and advancing behind Mount Ku had completely captured the Paichiyaso forts. By 12.30 o'clock the squadron signalled that they held possession of the eastern entrance to the harbour. The Chinese fleet were inside Liukungtao Island and were, conjointly with the Wangtao forts, firing upon the Japanese ships and troops. The Japanese squadron was blocking both entrances to the harbour and fighting was still going on. At 4.30 p.m. the second division had apparently occupied the important point of Wenchuantao.

Yokohama, 2nd February.

A telegram from Talienwan, dated yesterday afternoon, states that Marshal Oyama's report

confirms the news previously telegraphed. All the land forts at Weihaiwei have been captured and the Chinese have retreated beyond Fung-lin-chu. The Chinese men-of-war were, however, still firing upon the Japanese. The latter were inquiring into the losses sustained by both sides and were examining the prisoners and the spoils of war.

Yungching Bay, 30th January.

I have just returned from watching the first day's proceedings at Weihaiwei. The Japanese fleet left here at 2 a.m., so we knew the attack was to be made. We started at 5, getting off Weihaiwei at 8 a.m. just as the first guns commenced firing inland. The Japanese main fleet kept off and did nothing. The smaller ships, about eight of them, steamed along shore to the east of the eastern forts, firing as they got to their nearest point from them and returning. The infantry began the attack on the east fort. At 12.10 p.m. No. 1 battery, a heavy one pointing seaward, was apparently evacuated and the magazine exploded with a tremendous roar. At 12.35 No. 2 suffered the same fate. At No. 3 I think there must have been hard fighting. No. 4 was taken possession of apparently intact, for, facing the harbour and Liukungtao, it opened fire on the ships of the Chinese squadron. The Chinese ships had been busy in shelling the advancing troops, apparently steaming about the eastern part of the harbour, where the attack developed. This captured battery was apparently annoying the Chinese, for we saw the *Tingyuen* steam straight towards it, getting as near as she possibly could, I should think, and engage it, and, apparently, in about half-an-hour silenced it. We left at 4.30 for Yungching Bay again to send mails by the *Alacrity*. Heavy firing was going on and is now (9 p.m.) going on. I shall be off the place again at about 9.30 a.m. to-morrow.

The Japanese will doubtless take the place, but I think that they will have hard work if the Chinese destroy the western mainland forts before they leave them. The Japanese will then have the inland forts and ships to deal with. They have no siege artillery, only field and mountain guns, and the Japanese ships do not seem to care to risk much. I expect they have orders to spare their fleet as much as possible. The *Tingyuen* going in to engage that battery was the most striking part of the day's proceedings. One of the forts, of course mistaking our vessel for Japanese, pitched four or five shot at us, but as we were five miles off they did not reach us. The nearest was 500 yards short. The thermometer was down to 10 deg.

(From N. C. Daily News.)

According to Chinese official accounts, on China New Year's day, the 26th, the Japanese made a demonstration against the forts to the west of Weihaiwei, where the village is situated, knowing that to be the weakest spot in the defences, but, as the position had been greatly strengthened by quick-firing and machine-guns from the fleet, under the command of Commodore Lin, the Japanese were repulsed. The attack was renewed later in the day with the same result. The fire from the Chinese lines is declared to have been so heavy and continuous that the Japanese could not get near the Chinese position.

On Sunday, the 27th, the Japanese made a demonstration from the eastward, but finding the Chinese fully prepared they retired after exchanging a few shots.

The Japanese are said to have threatened an attack on the forts at Chefoo, but were prevented from carrying out their intention by the foreign men-of-war.

Chinese official despatches via Chefoo, dated the 28th, give the following particulars of the attack on Weihaiwei by the Japanese fleet:—

28th January.

The enemy attempted to force the eastern sea entrance of Weihaiwei with a fleet of nineteen large ships. The attack began at about 3 o'clock on the morning of New Year's day (26th January), but our best men-of-war, including the two ironclads, were moored at this spot, and our electric search lights used over both land and sea at once betrayed the presence of the enemy at a distance of four miles, making for the port in two divisions. Fire was immediately opened on the advanced Japanese vessels; the mosquito boats and their thirty-seven ton guns doing special damage to the enemy. Several of the largest and fastest of the enemy's ships then tried to make a dash for the port at full speed, accompanied by a swarm of smaller

craft, apparently torpedo boats, but we received this audacious attempt with such a sharp and well-sustained fire from our quick-firing and machine guns, assisted by the thirty-seven, thirty, and twenty-five ton guns of the fleet and battery, that the enemy was compelled almost immediately to make a circular sweep to the north-west and disappear into the outer darkness. But this was not before we had smashed three of the enemy's torpedo boats and over ten (thirteen were counted) of our largest shells struck the larger ships. The Japanese must have suffered very severe losses by this sea attack, otherwise they would have tried to make a stand-up fight of it if they could. The whole affair occupied several hours, a desultory fire being kept up by our long range guns for another hour, until the enemy had disappeared altogether. When the first division of the enemy attempted their dash and were repulsed the second division came up in their track, but were also obliged to make a retrograde movement, steering south-eastwards. This second division received only slight damage, as far as could be seen from the fort, as they kept at a distance of a mile or so, firing all the way, and then retired, whilst the first division approached to within 800 or 1,000 yards of our fleet and about a mile from the forts.

On the same morning, New Year's day, at a quarter-past 4 o'clock, the land forces of the enemy, computed at 12,000 men, were observed by our outposts and videttes stationed to watch the main road leading to Chefoo on the north and Yungching on the south. This body of troops had apparently come from Ninghai and were advancing quickly for the port. The idea seemed to be to surprise the market town of Weihaiwei, which is the western point of the port. The approaches to the town being almost entirely devoid of natural features of defence, it had consequently always been considered the weakest spot. But since the war commenced, and especially after the fall of Port Arthur, the approaches to the town for a distance of three miles had been strengthened by batteries and entrenchments as far as the ingenuity of foreign experts could avail, so that the position is now as strong as, perhaps stronger than, those guarding the southern and eastern approaches on the landward side. Immediately our videttes discovered the enemy the beacons were at once fired to give warning of their approach, while the whole of the outposts at this spot, numbering 800 horse and four guns—the latter commanded by a foreigner—fell back on the wood which constituted the first line of our defence on the western land side. A discharge from field-pieces and carbines was immediately opened on the advance guard of the enemy, 4,000 strong, who replied with their artillery. Commodore Lin, commanding at the town of Weihaiwei, despatched twelve machine and eight quick-firing guns and a body of 600 blue-jackets to the front as soon as the news of the land attack was received, while another division of 4,000 regular troops, under foreign officers, with twelve guns or two batteries of horse artillery, also arrived at the wood a quarter of an hour after the naval brigade reached there. Our fire kept the enemy from advancing, and by 10 o'clock they were reported to have retreated to a distance of five miles or so from the wood. Our loss on this occasion was twenty-seven blue-jackets and about sixty regulars. The enemy being in the open lost three times as many. Our scouts brought in 479 rifles and bayonets and counted as many of the enemy's dead bodies here and there within a mile and half of our entrenchments. Our position at the wood has now been considerably strengthened by extra machine and quick-firing guns and we have pushed our videttes farther northwards and westwards from this point.

Both land and sea attacks were intended as a surprise; the enemy being apparently under the impression that at the hour of the attack all the officers of the fleet and army would be occupied in going through the ceremony of paying new year congratulations to the Emperor's tablet at the Imperial temple at Liukungtao, which forms the northern barrier of the port, where is situated the Admiral's yamen and other government offices, store rooms, etc. The enemy probably thought that, as in the case of Pingyang at the autumn equinox, our soldiers would be carousing or sleeping off the effects of their celebration of New Year's eve and that with the surprise and confusion arising

from a night attack at that moment, they would be able to obtain a footing inside the port. They were apparently surprised in their turn. Vigilant watch is kept over land and sea, and our outposts are spread out several miles distant from the first defence lines. Our torpedo boats are also sent daily on scouting duty.

The following Chinese telegraphic despatches have been received at Shanghai from Weihaiwei:—On the 1st instant the enemy's fleet made another attempt to force the eastern entrance of the port, but so hot was our fire from both fleet and the forts at that end that we succeeded in destroying three of the enemy's torpedo boats and caused two others to be towed off in a sinking condition by other boats undamaged, or by launches. There were also three armoured cruisers, viz., the *Yashino*, *Fuso*, and one similar to the *Itsukushima*, which were observed to be well battered by our shells, and two of them, the *Yoshino* and the *Fuso*, were badly disabled; the latter listed on one side so much as to be evidently in a sinking condition. The damage to the *Fuso* was by a new invention like dynamite, which when shot off from special guns caused terrible explosions in the water like the bursting of torpedoes. This new weapon was also the means of destroying one of the enemy's torpedo boats, sending it into space seemingly, leaving nothing behind. We are fortunate in possessing this instrument of offence and defence, and its destructive effects have evidently created fear in the hearts of the enemy, who immediately retreated in haste when they found out the nature of the shots sent at them. Five li south-east of the eastern forts are a number of earthworks which have been abandoned by us; but the enemy will not be able to avail themselves of them since they are well commanded by our guns from the eastern and southern forts. This is the only loss we have suffered during the past five or six days, which, as may be perceived, is not very important, and which is more than counterbalanced by the losses suffered by the enemy at sea. It is to be earnestly hoped that the Viceroy Li's promise of sending a force from Tientsin and turning the southern troops en route for the north towards Weihaiwei instead will be kept. On the night of the 31st January a body of 2,000 men and six guns with a quantity of rice arrived at Weihaiwei, having been sent to us from Governor Li Ping-heng's encampment at Fushan (near Chefoo). We have more than enough ammunition, both for our large guns as well as small arms, and our rice granaries contain enough to feed fifteen thousand men for six months.

The *Centurion* and *Albatross* were off Weihaiwei when the assault was made on the eastern forts, and eye-witnesses have described the way in which the Japanese took these. So soon as their flag appeared over the captured forts two were blown up by the Chinese, probably by mines, and the third proving dangerous to the Chinese fleet, one of the ironclads was seen to steam out into the bay and shell the Japanese out of the captured fort. The British ships lay too far off to see with certainty which ironclad this was, but it was probably the *Chenyuen* under Admiral McClure.

Chefoo, 3rd February.

The ironclad *Chenyuen* behaved splendidly. She fired 115 rounds from her big guns on the 1st and not the slightest leakage was caused. When the proper moment arrives she will be able to go out with the rest to fight the enemy in the open sea. Losses on land and on the fleet very slight. Only sixty-nine wounded so far. Foreigners and officers of army and navy untouched. Japanese losses must be pretty severe.

Chefoo, 8th February, 7 a.m.

The following vessels of the Peiyang fleet are known to have been sunk at Liukungtao Island by torpedoes fired at them by the Japanese:—*Tingyuen*, flagship, armour clad, 7,335 tons, 6 guns; *Laiyuen*, armoured cruiser, 2,910 tons, 4 guns; *Weiyeuen*, wooden corvette, 1,200 tons, 6 guns; *Kangchi*, similar to the *Weiyeuen*; and one named *Paofa* (?). Those that have escaped are the *Chenyuen*, armour clad, sister ship of the flagship; *Tsiyuen*, steel cruiser, 2,300 tons, 3 guns; *Chingyuen*, steel cruiser, 2,300 tons, 5 guns; *Pingyuen*, armoured cruiser, 2,800 tons, 6 guns; and *Kuangping*, wooden torpedo cruiser, 1,030 tons, 4 quick-firing guns. Admiral Ting is reported to have managed to get on board one of the escaping ships, the whereabouts of which is not yet known. The enemy are reported to have fished up the submarine mines at the eastern

entrance, and their torpedo boats getting inside they then launched their torpedoes at the Chinese ships. This, of course, is mere report. Details are unknown, nor is it known whether the Armstrong "mosquito" boats have escaped or not.

THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

We take the following telegrams and despatches from the *N. C. Daily News*:-

Tokyo, 3rd February.

Yesterday afternoon the second interview took place between the Japanese Ministers and the Chinese Envoys for exchange of credentials, when the Chinese credentials were found to be fatally defective and powerless, so the Japanese Ministers refused to continue negotiations and closed the conference. The Chinese Envoys were required to depart on the earliest possible occasion, and will leave Hiroshima to-morrow by the *Owari Maru* for Nagasaki, where they will await a steamer for China. An Inspector-General of Police and several inspectors accompany the Embassy to Nagasaki for protection.

The Diet unanimously passed a resolution that they consider the objects of the war yet unattained, and are prepared to grant whatever amounts are necessary for military expenses to establish the country's prestige, and adopted this resolution with the express intention of making the country's sentiments generally known.

The information which has come to hand within the last twenty-four hours, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 8th inst., points to a more marked desire on the part of the Chinese Government to bring about a cessation of hostilities, the hopefulness of which is mainly discounted by the prevailing belief that the Japanese are in no mood to debate terms of peace, and will readily fix upon any pretext to seemingly warrant the continuation of this outrageous and deliberately provoked war. Yesterday at noon we issued the following "Extra":-

"We understand that the Chinese Government are making renewed efforts towards peace with Japan. A telegram has been despatched from Peking to the Envoys at Nagasaki telling them to remain there pending the receipt of the credentials. In reply, it may be acceptable to the Japanese Government. It appears that the credentials of the Envoys consisted only of a holograph letter from the Emperor of China to the Mikado, deploring the quarrel and the great bloodshed which had resulted. This letter is described as being of an impressive character, but it was not deemed sufficient to authorise the Envoys to discuss terms. It, however, elicited a letter of a similar tone from the Mikado."

Whatever we may think of a government which sends its representatives with such weak instruments to talk of peace, we think there can be little doubt that the Emperor's advisers were acting in good faith, and that on the other hand the Japanese were not particularly sorry when they were able to bow the Envoys out and return lightly to the game of war. But, however pleasing the war may be to Japanese vanity and thirst for military glory, it is time they began to realise that foreigners are viewing with very decided feelings the damage which the war has already inflicted upon trade, and are asking how far the injury is to be allowed to continue unchecked. The time for the opening of the Northern Ports is drawing near, but business promises to be absolutely nil, for, with the reiterated intention of the Japanese to occupy Peking, such a state is but natural. It is to be hoped, therefore, that China will at once pursue the proper course for the arranging of peace and that the Japanese will be prepared to meet these overtures in a right spirit. Japan will not only forfeit every right to the respect which her victories, easy though some of them have been, may have gained for her if she slights any honest attempts at peace, but she will also be courting a more practical risk, viz., very decided action on the part of the foreign Powers.

THE STRENGTH OF THE CHINESE ARMY.

According to Chinese official statistics there are 194,000 men on the active service list in Manchuria, besides the 40,000 men of Liu K'un-yi's army corps and the 24,000 first reserve at Shanhaikuan, making a total of 258,000 men to meet the Japanese in Manchuria the coming spring. This does not include the forces in Tientsin and vicinity.

GENERAL VON HANNEKEN.

A Tientsin native despatch states that General von Hanneken petitioned Prince Kung, upon

it being definitely known that Weihaiwei was to be attacked, volunteering to lead a force to reinforce the land troops there. The Prince at once gave General von Hanneken power to pick out a force, variously reported at from 25,000 to 50,000 men, of those encamped in the vicinity of Tientsin and southwards as far as Ts'angchow on the borders of Shantung. Armed with these powers General von Hanneken set about his plan to relieve Weihaiwei; but, as usual there were obstacles put in his way. His colleague, Hu Yu-fen, the ex-Judge of Kuang-si and chief of the Peiyang commissariat, declared himself unable to supply the force with the necessary provisions, etc., "as the turning southwards of these troops would disjoint and disorganise the department!"

NEWS FROM CHEFOO.

The weather at Chefoo was very cold last week, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 8th inst., and the harbour was frozen over for some three miles from shore, the temperature having fallen as low as 9 deg. Fahr., so that the sufferings of the Japanese and Chinese soldiers at Weihaiwei must have been intense. Operations at the latter place were suspended on Tuesday, but when the *Liting* passed, the Japanese could be seen encamped on the hills on the mainland, while a number of men-of-war and transports were all seen. The men-of-war were watching that none of the Chinese escaped, while the Chinese fleet was on guard inside, one ironclad being at each entrance, and the other vessels between them. From Chefoo we learn that a number of soldiers who had deserted from Weihaiwei and elsewhere had been beheaded, their decapitated bodies lying about in the vicinity of Chefoo. Two foreigners, Messrs. Thomas and Walpole, are reported killed, their deaths occurring when they blew up the forts on the mainland after the Chinese soldiers had deserted them. Mr. Thomas was an Englishman and had been a gunner on board the Customs cruiser *Kaipan*. One of the two foreigners who were taken out of the *Sydney* at Kobe some time ago, but after being released joined the Chinese at Weihaiwei, is now in Shanghai. The other man is said to be one of the torpedo-boats at Weihaiwei.

THE ATTACK ON TENGCHOW.

The following accounts of the Japanese attack, related by the resident American missionaries, have been kindly sent to us (*N. C. Daily News*) for publication:-

This afternoon about four o'clock (18th January) the quiet city of Tengchow was startled by the firing of heavy guns. They came, as it proved, from three Japanese men-of-war passing opposite the city through Hope Sound toward the east. Hope Sound separates Miaotao Island from the mainland, and is about four miles wide. The city of Tengchow lies just opposite the east end of this island, the north wall being about half a mile from the shore. Between the city proper and the sea lies the "water city," which has its own separate wall, a small stream flowing between the two. The ordinary garrison of the city is stationed in this "water city," and to the west of it on a high hill there is a small fort with one good sized modern cannon. There are three encampments on the south and west sides of the city, containing in all about 2,500 soldiers. There are no soldiers in the city. When the first few shots were fired I supposed it was the Chinese firing away powder as they are wont to do for practice, but the shots being very heavy I went up to the look-out on top of the house, from which the sea is in full view. I saw a large vessel passing by the city about half way from the mainland to the islands. Presently another came in view from behind the bluff, and finally a third. Both the forward vessels fired continuously on the city as they passed. The hindmost only fired one or two shots. The gun on the little fort on the hill fired several shots, as also did some guns in the water city mounted on the wall facing the sea, but their balls fell far short in the water. From my post of observation I could see every flash from the vessels and hear the balls whizzing over my head or striking the wall near by. The Tengchow College, with Mr. Hayes' house and mine, are about 200 yards from the north wall of the city and directly opposite the water city. I saw one shot plough into the earth in a garden about 100 yards from Mr. Hayes' house, and also saw a shell strike the wall and burst with a deafening explosion about 200 yards distant. One shot came through the wall and, glancing, demolished a Chinese house about 120 yards to the east of us. Probably

about twenty-five shots fell in the city. One shot at least went clear over the city and struck nearly a half mile beyond it. We have already heard of seven or eight houses being struck, two of them being set on fire. One shot struck Miss Moon's yard wall, but did no other damage. Miss Moon herself was not at home. A considerable number of persons were wounded, though we have only heard of one being killed, which is rather a remarkable thing considering the number of shells that fell in the city. None of the vessels stopped, but simply fired as they went, and when well past the city turned off and steamed north towards Port Arthur. It is surmised here that the Japanese came through Hope Sound looking for Chinese vessels, which have once or twice secreted themselves there for a short time, and being fired on by the fort on the north hill, opened not only on the fort but also on the city. The Chinese stoutly deny that they fired the first shot, and it is impossible to tell at this writing just how the affray did open. It was a breach of the laws of war for the Japanese to fire in this reckless way and without notice on a defenceless city. They would, of course, have been justified in dismantling the fort, which they could easily have done without touching the city. We have, of course, informed the authorities at Chefoo and hope we may receive a visit from some of them to-morrow. We propose to stand by our homes and only ask that the Japanese be required to treat us according to the laws of civilised warfare.

THE SECOND ATTACK.

When the Japanese turned north on Friday evening we supposed we were done with them for the present, but the next day a little after noon they were discovered lying behind the islands and a little later they steamed out as if going east towards Chefoo, but presently turned and came up toward the city, and as soon as the foremost got within range she opened fire, the other vessels following in turn. They made a circle, keeping beyond the range of the gun on the north hill, and as they turned away from us ceased firing. We hoped they were gone, but they went round the circle and returned firing as before and then steamed off about four o'clock towards Chefoo. As soon as they appeared Mr. Hayes went down to the water city and with the help of a military officer there managed to get a sampan, and taking a white flag and also an American flag put off to try to hear (d) the vessels and, if possible, make such statement of the facts as would prevent them firing into the city. He was a time in the direct range of the gun on the hill and shots fell both before and behind him. He finally got outside of the direct range and keeping on finally got quite near one of the vessels, but no signs or hailing from him were heeded and, as they did not stop, he of course could not get alongside. I stood on top of the house with an American flag waving in full view of them through the whole first round and part of the second. They seemed to aim most of their shots at the tower over the gate, and as our house lay in about the same range we got a larger number of shots than any spot in the city. One of the first shots fired landed a shell in the earth about forty feet from our house. A few moments later another fell within five feet of the first. Half a dozen more went whizzing over my head and struck and burst beyond. One went so close to me that I involuntarily dodged to one side, which was as natural as it was useless. There was a fascination in watching the flashes and then listening for the whizzing of the shot. But about the middle of the last round I concluded I had better get down, considering that if the house were struck beneath me I might be rolled down and killed by the fall. Just after I came down a large shell went into the earth about a hundred feet east of the house, and bursting threw a shower of earth and stones over the house. In all eight shots struck quite close around our house and six or seven more within a couple of hundred yards. Most of the shots fell in open gardens. One shot went clean through the North Gate tower but did not seriously damage it. At least forty shells fell in the city, and several struck the wall. The gun on the north hill fired from time to time, and Mr. Hayes reports that one shot came within three or four rods of the foremost Japanese vessel. The people fled in crowds to our houses supposing that somehow or other we could protect them. The first day's bombardment created

a regular stampede from the city and fabulous prices were paid for any kind of conveyance. The second day trebled the panic; men, women, and children were flying in all directions, the men carrying bundles of clothing and the women hobbling along on their little feet, dragging their children after them. All night the city was astir with preparations for moving and on the Sabbath morning multitudes started on foot and others with any conveyance that it was possible to get. A blinding snowstorm came on about nine o'clock and continued till late in the afternoon. It is feared that many perished in the snow.

C. W. MATEER.

Tengchow, 21st January.

THE REV. J. P. IRWIN'S ACCOUNT.

This letter from Tengchow has been detained because it has not been possible to send it to the Press, and I will add a few words to Dr. Mateer's account of the attack on that place. On Sabbath, 20th of Jan., about four o'clock in the afternoon, in answer to our telegrams, the s.s. *Yorktown*, of the U.S. navy arrived in Tengchow harbour, but the officers were unable to come ashore because of the lateness of the hour and the roughness of the sea. A heavy wind was blowing from the north and so they anchored for the night behind the island. A little after nine o'clock on Monday morning two of the officers came ashore, and by two o'clock most of the ladies and all the children in the community (all missionaries) were aboard the ship and off for Chefoo. This was deemed the wisest course to pursue, notwithstanding we were very sorry that any of us were compelled to leave the poor people in this sad hour of war and distress. The following are the names of those who left Tengchow for Chefoo:—The Rev. J. B. Hartwell, D.D., wife and four children; Mrs. C. R. Mills and three children; Mrs. W. M. Hayes and two children; the Rev. J. P. Irwin and wife, and Jeanie Mateer, the 11 year old daughter of the Rev. R. M. Mateer. It is only just to say that Dr. Hartwell was induced to leave his people and work because he is yet far from the strong and vigorous man he was before his long and dangerous illness. They left in the Mission at Tengchow the following persons, who thought it their duty to remain with the people and comfort them and also to guard the property and interest of the Mission. They are the Rev. Dr. Mateer and wife, Dr. Seymour and wife, Dr. Mills, the Rev. W. M. Hayes, Miss Snodgrass, and Miss Moon. ~~neglecting~~ ^{neglecting} ~~we have not heard from Tengchow, but have every reason to believe that they have not been further molested.~~ After the attack on Weihaiwei, which must certainly be now very soon, from the position and movements of the Japanese army, we can form a better idea of what may take place here and at Tengchow. At the present time all is conjecture as to what will take place along the coast; but we can see no sufficient reason why the Japanese should make further attack on the city of Tengchow, and as it is a poor city, a poor harbour, will certainly be of no available service to them.

J. P. IRWIN.

Chefoo, 24th January.

THE THIRD ATTACK.

When the Japanese left us last Saturday, writes our correspondent, and we heard on Sunday that they were landing a large force from transports at Yungching we supposed that their purpose in attacking Tengchow had been served and that until after the taking of Weihaiwei we would not be further disturbed. We were mistaken in this, however, for this morning (Saturday, Chinese New Year's day) about 10 o'clock the flag on the north hill went up, showing that they were in sight again. We put out our fires and got ready for them as fast as we could. They came up to the city from the east, but stopped so as to keep well out of the way of the Armstrong gun on the north hill. When they got well in position they opened out on us. Only two vessels came and they were neither of them those that came last week. They were smaller vessels and evidently carried lighter guns. They kept up the fire for about an hour and a half, firing slowly at short intervals. Most of their fire seemed to be directed at the water city and at the temple (Ponglai-kwo) on the hill facing the sea in which a gun is mounted and a regiment of raw recruits are stationed. I have not yet heard how the soldiers behaved. A crowd of Chinese were standing on the wall by the East gate tower in full sight watching what

was going on. They seem to have attracted the notice of the Japanese, for they presently planted a shell in the wall close by the gate, which, however, failed to do any damage. A few minutes later two more struck in the suburb close by. It was not long till the post of observation at the East gate was left vacant. Hearing a shot whizzing over my head I looked up and saw it quite distinctly for a considerable distance as it passed away from me across the city. No shots fell near our house as they did the other time. Two or three houses were demolished in the city, but I have not heard of any one being killed. The large majority of the people of the city have fled to the country. I have not heard what damage was done in the water city. The prefect made a spectacle of himself. As soon as the vessels drew near he got on his horse and posted out of the city to the west, not stopping till he got a mile from the gate. Here he stopped to await results, but a ball came whizzing along and he suddenly took to his heels as fast as he could, not waiting to get on his horse again. One of our Christians was coming towards the city at the time and saw the performance. This whole business of firing on this city is certainly a cowardly proceeding. The city is wholly defenceless. The gun on the hill north-west on the city is fairly good, but the Japanese took good care to stay well out of the range of it on the east, and from thence fire on the city. Whether they will visit us again to-morrow or not remains to be seen.

The Japanese men-of-war paid a third visit to Tengchow on the 26th ultimo, as will be seen from the above, and on that occasion directed their fire against the water city and a temple on the hill which was fortified. The object of the attack was no doubt the same as on the two previous occasions, namely, to draw the Chinese to the north-western part of Shantung, so as to leave the operations near Yungching Bay as free from molestation as possible, but it is idle for the Japanese to pretend that they were making an attack on a formidable garrison, as no landing was effected nor was any attempt made to disperse the soldiers encamped at Tengchow. The purpose of the Japanese could have been effected on ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~vessels~~ ^{vessels} visiting Tengchow by their ships engaging the forts, and whatever their advocates may say there was no necessity for shelling a city densely populated by non-combatants without any notice having been given of their intention. That more inoffensive people were not killed than appears to have been the case was not the fault of the Japanese.

(Special Telegrams to the North-China Daily News.)

Tokyo, 1st February, 87 p.m.

The complaint of wanton cruelty when bombarding Tengchowfu is unfounded. The city is fortified, the Chinese troops there numbering 3,300 infantry, 500 cavalry, and 500 artillery with twenty guns. The Japanese fire was directed upon the forts only. Possibly this caused personal inconvenience, but owing to the important position of the town from a military and strategic point of view it was necessary to ensure the unassailed landing of the Japanese troops elsewhere.

CONTRAVENING THE BUILDING ORDINANCE.

HEAVY FINES.

At the Police Court on the 6th inst., before Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Mr. Mackintosh, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, was summoned by Mr. H. P. Tooker, Executive Engineer of the Public Works Department, for four contraventions of the Building Ordinance. Defendant did not appear, but was represented by Mr. Ross Thomson.

Mr. E. M. Hazeland, Assistant Engineer, stated that on the 23rd ult. he observed that Messrs. Butterfield and Swire were constructing a pier on the Crown foreshore in front of Quarry Bay. The work had not been authorised in accordance with Section 18 of Ordinance 13 of 1889. The Public Works Department had not received any application for permission to construct the pier. Witness then gave similar testimony in regard to the other three offences. He was cross-examined by Mr. Ross Thomson to show that other works had been carried out at Quarry Bay without plans having been submitted. Frederick Pearce, of the Public Works Depart-

ment, gave evidence in corroboration, and Messrs. J. G. Blake and J. Waddell were then called, but did not appear, although they had been subpoenaed.

The case was thereupon adjourned for an hour to allow them an opportunity of appearing.

When the Court resumed Mr. Tooker called the Magistrate's attention to the section of the Ordinance and the penalties set forth.

Mr. Ross Thomson then said—We admit the charge contained in the four summonses. We admit we have committed a technical offence, but we submit it was done by pure inadvertence without any intention to inconvenience the Government or the officers of the Public Works Department. We have been building there almost continuously for ten years at least, and in that time have had many plans to submit for different purposes, whilst some work has been carried out on other occasions and the plans have been overlooked. I cannot assign any special reason why these particular plans were not submitted, but as some of our men are liable to be absent at various times it may have been an oversight, and so the plans were not sent in. With regard to this pier notice was served upon us on the 24th January and on the same day the plans were sent in to the Public Works Department, whose letter of acknowledgment I have here, and under the date of 5th February we received the Governor's permission to go on with the work. One of the witnesses has stated that the work was not stopped as called for in the notice and that he pointed it out to our superintendent on different dates. I believe that if Mr. Blake or Mr. Waddell had been here they would have told you that the actual work on this pier has not been in progress for a period of three weeks, but during that time men have been working on the wharf securing the work which had been already done. No fresh piles have been driven in during that time and only planks and rivets were secured. In regard to the other three charges the first notice we had was the summons. In all four cases we admit the technical offence and submit for your consideration that it was by pure inadvertence, ~~and~~ ⁱⁿ regard to the first we have now permission ~~or~~ ⁱⁿ in regard to the others plans are being made as quickly as possible.

His Worship—As you have pointed out, one witness—Mr. Hazeland, I think—stated that on previous occasions work has been done without first receiving the sanction of the Department. You say you are doing a big business there, and if anybody should know the Building Ordinance it is the people in charge of these works. There can be no plea of ignorance. It appears to me a case of complete disregard of the Ordinance.

Mr. Ross Thomson—We did not plead ignorance.

His Worship—Well, there has been neglect at any rate. The defendant is fined \$50 dollars in regard to each case, with the alternative of two months' hard labour.

THE ALTERNATIVE QUASHED.

Commander W. C. H. Hastings on Monday held a special sitting at the Police Court for the purpose of reviewing his decision in the Building Ordinance case. It will be remembered that on Wednesday Mr. Mackintosh, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, was fined \$50 "or two months' imprisonment with hard labour" in each of four cases of contravention of the Building Ordinance. This pronouncement, particularly the alternative of two months' hard labour, was taken exception to by the defendant's firm, with the result that the Magistrate determined to review his decision. Mr. H. P. Tooker, Executive Engineer of the Public Works Department, at whose instance the summonses were taken out, appeared in person, while Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., represented the defendant. On the assembling of the Court

His Worship said—Before re-opening this case I wish to say that I have been asked by the defendant to state under what Ordinance and Section I based my decision. I based my decision under sub-Section 3, Section 77, of the Building Ordinance—that was in regard to the fine—and under Section 39 of the Magistrates Ordinance in regard to the imprisonment. I have been considering that since, and it appears to me to offer rather a strained application to Section 39. So seldom had recourse to distress in default of the fine not being paid been taken that practically it had become a dead letter. On thoroughly examining that Section it appears to me that it is a strained construction to put

upon it to impose imprisonment. In cases of this sort, in default of payment, it would be better to seize by distress, and therefore I gave the defendant an opportunity of re-opening the case with a view to reviewing my decision in regard to imprisonment. I am sorry if I hurt anybody's feelings.

Mr. Tooker—Does your Worship intend to re-open the case or to receive fresh evidence?

His Worship (to Mr. Francis)—Do you admit the charges?

Mr. Francis—The notice your Worship gave us was a notice to review your decision. It is not for me nor Mr. Tooker to address you. It is not the case you are reviewing; you are simply reviewing your own decision with certain lights that have come before you in consequence of your consideration of the Ordinance. I do not think it is competent for you to re-open the case or to go into further evidence. It is only your Worship's indolence on the facts you have that is before the Court for re-consideration. I will only ask your Worship's further attention to the fact that one portion of your sentence was for a breach of Section 69. I think there were four separate charges. I have not the summonses before me, and I do not know precisely under what Section these four charges were made. Some were under Section 69.

His Worship—The sections were 68 and 69 of Ordinance 15 of 1889.

Mr. Francis—There is no penalty attached to clause 68.

His Worship—I based my decision on sub-section 3 of section 77.—“Every act, failure, neglect or omission or refusal whereby any section of this Ordinance is contravened.”

Mr. Francis—That is so; but there is no power to inflict a penalty.

His Worship—Section 84 states that in case of conviction “every person offending against the provisions of sections 54 to 66 both inclusive shall be liable to a fine of \$50.” And by Section 85 every person committing a nuisance as defined by Section 77 is liable to a fine of \$100.

Mr. Francis—I point out to your Worship Sections 84 and 85. You will see they are absolutely inconsistent. Section 84 says “every person offending against the provisions of Sections 54 to 66, both inclusive, shall be liable on summary conviction thereof before a Magistrate to a fine not exceeding \$50.” Here Section 85 refers to a person convicted of a nuisance defined by Section 77, “every act, failure, neglect, omission, or refusal whereby any section of this Ordinance is contravened.” But Section 85 and sub-Section 3 of 77 together and your Worship will be entitled to inflict a fine of \$100 for every breach, however small or however great, of this Ordinance.

His Worship—It clearly comes within Section 77.

Mr. Francis—The section is supremely ridiculous. It must be limited to something which is in itself a nuisance. The failure to send in a plan or to give notice cannot by any construction be considered a nuisance. It is neither a private nor a public nuisance. Under Section 77 the following are deemed nuisances under the Ordinance,—“Every verandah over land the property of the Crown and every pier or wharf over a foreshore the property of the Crown, the owner whereof in each case shall have neglected or refused to construct, re-construct, repair, maintain, or occupy the same in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance or with the rules and regulations, &c.” The failure to send in a notice cannot by any possibility be intended to be dealt with as a nuisance. The section is inconsistent. Under Section 60 it is not lawful “for any person to cut earth or turf the property of the Crown.” If a general universal application is to be given to Section 77 your Worship would be perfectly entitled to inflict a penalty of \$100 on any person who cut turf and yet in another section the penalty is distinctly limited to \$50. So that some limitation must be put upon sub-section 3. It cannot by any possibility apply to Section 60. I can quite see the difficulty your Worship was in.

His Worship—There are various descriptions of nuisances.

Mr. Francis—They are all that I have mentioned.

His Worship—Under Section 68 there is a special encroachment clause.

Mr. Francis—There is no penalty provided

for an encroachment, and Section 85 is not more applicable to 68 than it is to 60.

His Worship—By Section 77 a larger penalty is provided:

Mr. Francis—Is it possible that sub-section 3 can possibly refer to section 60? If it does it cannot refer to Section 69, which refers to an act of precisely the same character.

His Worship—I think it is not intended—

Mr. Francis—I admit it is ambiguous and perhaps your Worship will be justified in inflicting a fine. Having taken all the circumstances of the case into consideration I ask your Worship to reduce the fine to a nominal amount. A reasonable explanation was given, there is no probability of a recurrence of an offence of this character, and attention has been so markedly called to the requirements of the Ordinance. I submit that your Worship might usefully and properly reduce the fine to something like a nominal amount.

His Worship—The iron pier must have been ordered out from England, and gentlemen in the position of your clients must have known that the foreshore was the property of the Lord of the manor—in this case the Crown. This was emphasised by notice being served upon them and they disregarded it.

Mr. Francis—Permission was actually granted before the summons was issued. Why did the Crown grant permission and then prosecute? It has authorised all that has been done in the past.

His Worship—I cannot accept that.

Mr. Francis—The summons was dated 1st February.

His Worship—And the permission?

Mr. Francis—I was told the 5th February. Then your Worship takes the alternative off?

His Worship—Yes; fined \$50 in each case.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence has been handed to us for publication:—

Hongkong, 8th February, 1895.

Sir,—We beg to bring to the notice of H.E. the Governor the great dissatisfaction we feel with the discretion exercised by the Director of Public Works in administering the Ordinance No. 15 of 1889.

Under Section 37 of that Ordinance we are permitted to appeal to the Governor in Council. For many years we have been engaged in very extensive building and other works in connection with our sugar factory at Quarry Bay.

Recently important additions have been made to the buildings, etc., involving immense detail work, which it has been impossible to compass as quickly and consecutively as we could wish.

Owing to this strain—though at the onset the Public Works Department were supplied with all the plans required under the Ordinance—we have latterly fallen into arrears, and plans have not been submitted to the Department for work that had to be undertaken at once before the works were commenced. To this extent we are to blame, but it is purely a technical error, an omission that will occur even in the ordinary business of any undertaking of magnitude.

For the omissions mentioned below, for which eventually the Department served upon us four summonses to appear at the Police Court on the 6th inst., for one only have we received any previous notice from the Works Department.

(a).—This notice, for plans and directing attention to an encroachment, was handed us on the 24th ult. A few minutes afterwards one plan was in the possession of the Department, and in our letter of enclosure we admitted the encroachment and asked that permission might be given therefor. Permission was accorded on the 5th inst., one day prior to the day on which the summons was returnable. Owing to an error on our part we were under the impression the structure rested upon our, and not upon Government ground; hence we were unaware till notified that any encroachment had been made. We were able to send the plan promptly, as we had a single copy in our possession, and have had to ask for its return for further copies to be made for our own use.

(b).—This case of omission was first notified to us by summons on the 4th inst. It is for an encroachment on Crown lands and neglect to send plans of a small pier erected on the foreshore. Similarly to case (a) we

were unaware of the encroachment and the plans were overlooked in the press of other work.

(c).—Summons in this case was the only notification of our omission to send plans; it is for three items of work.

Item 1, was for an addition to a chimney. The plan for the original work was deposited with the Department months ago.

Item 2, was for the construction of a small lean-to shed attached to a building.

Item 3, was for the construction of an underground tunnel.

(d).—This summons was for the construction of two godowns, plans of which, for the Department, were under consideration some time back, but pressure of other urgent work caused them to be set aside for a more convenient time.

For these offences we were summoned to appear at the Police Court on the 6th inst., when we at once admitted that we had committed the technical offences against the Building Ordinance No. 15 of 1889. The Stipendiary Magistrate thereupon, after commenting upon our presumed knowledge of the law, seeing the large building interests we had, inflicted upon us a fine of \$200, or \$50 on each summons, and added to the indignity thrust upon us by being compelled to appear in a common Police Court, that the alternative of non-payment of the fine was two months' imprisonment with hard labour.

If you will turn to the Ordinances of the colony, compiled for, and authorised by, the Government, 1892, you will find the Building Ordinance No. 15 of 1889 most clearly lays down, in sections 84 and 86, the penalties attachable to persons offending against its provisions. There is therein no power given the Stipendiary Magistrate to pronounce an alternative of imprisonment, either with or without hard labour, in event of a fine not being paid.

The gratuitous addendum to the decision of the Magistrate is, under the circumstances, a deliberate insult to us, and indicates a want of discretion that suggests how dangerous it is to have the application of such power in the hands of untrained officials.

Further, taking the summonses in the notation above noted, (a) Summons (b) come for penalty under section No. 85, which is fixed as not exceeding \$100. Summons (c) Summons (d) come under neither of the penalty clauses 84, 85. Clause 84 states the penalties attach to sections 54 to 66, both inclusive, only, while the section we contravened was No. 69, for not sending plans to the Public Works Department. We have, therefore, been unjustly and erroneously fined \$100 upon these two summonses.

Such a scandalous instance of “competent incompetency” savours much of the “quarterdeck law” recently referred to by the leading Judge of the colony.

It would be interesting to know if any, and what, Government legal official was consulted by the Director of Public Works in his conduct of this affair.

We have conclusively shown that only for the two encroachments (a & b) had we committed any offence indictable by summons against the Ordinance, and that these were technical inadvertencies.

That in the first case (a) the Government had given their assent; in fact, condoned our omissions by giving permission to do what we had done before the summons was returnable. And, no doubt, in second case (b), similar permission will be granted so soon as we are in a position to submit the necessary plan. The Building Ordinance is of a particularly drastic nature, mainly framed to meet the delinquencies of natives. Its application to those who have no intention of evading its provisions is strained and unreasonable. In no instance have we shown any desire to escape its provisions. We have carefully complied with any demands that have been preferred by the Board of Works for information, plans, etc., etc., and have never met the slightest discourtesy from the heads of that Department till now. If the usual and proper course had been pursued of writing, calling attention to our omissions, the matter would have been put straight at once. Instead, the particularly offensive method of procedure by summons was adopted.

We feel we have been most improperly dealt with by that offensive officialism of office that

unfortunately prevails, to some extent, in our distant colonies and we call upon H.E. the Governor to cause amends to be made to us for the wrongdoing of his subordinates.

As we have been publicly maligned by the officers of the Government, we have no hesitation in giving equal publicity to this letter. We therefore publish it once, and reserve to ourselves the right to address H.M. Secretary of State for the Colonies upon the subject.—We have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servants.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

To the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1895.

Sir.—We beg to refer to the following correspondence for the perusal of H.E. The Governor. We may add that the letters from the Acting Stipendiary Magistrate reached us after our letter to you of yesterday was written.—We have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servants,

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

To the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

(Copy.)

Hongkong, 7th February, 1895.

Commander W. C. H. Hastings, R.N.,
Acting Stipendiary Magistrate

Sir.—In the decision you gave yesterday, on the prosecution of our firm by the Public Works Department, you are reported to have inflicted the penalty of \$20 fine, or the alternative of two months' imprisonment with hard labour. Would you kindly state under which ordinance and the section, you based your decision.—Yours most obediently,

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

(Copy.)

Magistracy, Hongkong,
8th February, 1895.

Gentlemen.—With reference to your letter dated 7th instant I am directed by Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Acting Police Magistrate, to point out that there are obvious reasons why the adjudicating Magistrate should decline to enter into correspondence with parties to any case that may have been before him. I am, however, to inform you that the Acting Police Magistrate has, under section 97 of Ordinance 10 of 1890, decided to review the case.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

W. M. B. ARTHUR,
First Clerk.

Messrs. Butterfield & Swire.

(Copy.)

Police Court, Hongkong,
8th February, 1895.

Cases Nos. 1387, 1388, 1389, and 1390.

Reg. by H. P. Tooker, Executive Engineer.
P.W.D., versus E. Mackintosh, Messrs.
Butterfield & Swire.

Sir.—I am directed by Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Acting Police Magistrate, to inform you that he has, under the provisions of Ordinance 10 of 1890, Section 17, decided to review his adjudications in the above cases on Monday, the 11th instant, at 2.30 p.m.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

W. M. B. ARTHUR,
Magistrates' Clerk.

E. Mackintosh, Esq., Messrs. Butterfield & Swire.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—The latest news from Wenchow is that all is quiet at that port now, thanks to the timely visit of H.M.S. *Redpole*, which had an excellent effect upon the conduct of the officials. The bumptious and rude Taotai is now all civility, and has apologised to the British Consul for his former offensive behaviour. There is a great deal of virtue still in the good old gunboat policy, so far as China is concerned.

Chefoo despatches, according to the *N. C. Daily News*, report that the Shantung Governor, Li Ping-heng, has executed a very large number of officers and men who fled from Yungchow and Weihaiwei to Chefoo. Amongst the number was the General in command of the Yungchow troops and a Colonel belonging to the Weihaiwei garrison, who upon getting to Chefoo spread many rumours concerning the fidelity of General Tai and the loss of Weihaiwei.

DISTRIBUTION OF AMBULANCE CERTIFICATES.

LIEUT. GENERAL BARKER AND THE VOLUNTEERS.

A small company assembled on the Volunteer Parade Ground on Tuesday afternoon to witness a very interesting ceremony performed by Lieut. General G. Digby Barker, C.B. It was the occasion of the distribution of certificates to those successful candidates who had passed the St. John's Ambulance examination, and the majority of the candidates belonged to the Hongkong Volunteer Corps. The examination was held some months ago, but for some reason there was a delay in the arrival of the certificates from England, and so they could not be distributed until yesterday. Advantage was also taken by Lieut. General Barker to inspect the Corps. The Corps had assembled on the ground in full dress uniform, and, in addition, there were four Chinese students from the Chinese College of Medicine, who train with the Corps as a stretcher class, and who had also obtained Ambulance certificates. Shortly after five o'clock Lieut. General Digby Barker arrived, and he was accompanied by Colonel Jerrard, Surgeon-Colonel Preston, Surgeon-Major Westcott, Major Pemberton, Capt. Gordon, and Surgeon Spry. There were also present, in uniform, Capt. McCallum and Lieut. Machell, of the Volunteers, and standing near the officers were the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart and Mrs. Lockhart, Mrs. F. H. Way, Miss Barker, Mrs. Cantlie, and several other ladies and gentlemen. The Corps was in charge of Surgeon Captain Cantlie, and the proceedings were opened by an ambulance drill. Three patients, who were supposed to have been very badly injured, then came on to the field, and, after the orthodox fashion, they were placed on stretchers and their wounds dressed. And they were not slight wounds at all; they were wounds such as a soldier is most liable to on a field of battle. The first patient was suffering from a fracture of the left thigh-bone, and was supposed to be, which was just the same thing for the purposes of an ambulance drill—from a fracture of the left thigh-bone, and was shot wound on the chest, and bleeding from palm of hand. The second patient's injuries were stated to be "hemorrhage from left femoral artery, fracture of right forearm, and fracture of lower jaw;" while the third man's injuries were "right foot torn off by shell, wound on scalp, and broken ribs." It cannot be denied that these injuries were thoroughly representative of battle-field injuries, and the poor victims did their best to wear a countenance characteristic of a warrior almost sick to death with shell wounds. The three men were carefully bandaged by the members of the Corps under the keen observation of the Major-General and his officers, and after the drill had been efficiently gone through the certificates were awarded by the Major-General to the following winners, some of whom, however, did not attend:—

Second examination.—Mr. G. Moffatt.

First examination.—Rev R. F. Cobbold, and Messrs. F. B. L. Bowley, P. Brewitt, C. H. Gae, J. R. Germain, E. Honeysett, J. Lemm, R. Mitchell, M. S. Northcote, H. O. Palmer, C. S. Sharp, S. B. J. Skerchly, D. W. Smith, and F. J. Wilkins.

The following Volunteers passed the first examination.—Messrs. C. M. Adamson, F. W. Danby, W. H. Purcell, G. W. Wathing, H. C. Wilcox, W. K. Wylie, C. C. Bowring, W. St. J. Hancock, H. W. Kennett, T. Moffatt, and J. Mathieson.

The four Chinese medical students who had also gained their first certificates were Ho Nai Hop, Tong Fuo Man, Wong Sai Yan, and Lui King Shum.

Lieut. General BARKER then said—It always gives me very great pleasure to distribute these certificates, which do those who earn them very much credit. I have also been very pleased with the inspection to-day. The Surgeon-Major, who has conducted the inspection, expresses himself as extremely satisfied with the drill, and so far as I may presume to express an opinion upon such a scientific subject, it appears to me to have been extremely well done, and I was also satisfied with the smartness of the drill. All those Volunteers who have passed the examination will now be allowed to wear those honourable badges which have just been distributed. I am glad to see so many Volunteers come forward to

gain certificates—ten altogether, in addition to those who have already gained them. As I have taken a very great interest in the re-construction of the Volunteers I am particularly satisfied to see that they are coming to the front and justifying their existence; and I am also glad to see here to-day other Volunteers, who show, by their presence, how they appreciate the distinction won by their comrades. I am also glad to see four Chinese medical students who have acquitted themselves so well, and who have, equally with the others, obtained the St. John's Ambulance certificates, which were not here to-day; but they will obtain temporary certificates pending the arrival of the confirmed certificates from England. The number is small, but I hope, although it is a small instalment, that this may be an augury of a larger movement by which the blessings of Western science may be greatly extended over the whole of China. The Chinese little know what they lose by setting their faces against it. I am glad to see such a large number of civilians, and police as well, coming forward for these certificates. Especially do I congratulate those two gainers of certificates who have gained them for the third time. It is a proof of very great perseverance which does them very great credit. To all those who have received certificates I offer my sincere congratulations, and we all of us owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Cantlie, who, with his great energy, continues to give his services to this good work. Dr. Cantlie was, I believe, the organiser and the first Commandant of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps, which has now grown into such a large and useful institution. I am gratified to see he is extending that work, and it must be a very great satisfaction to him to know that by his energy and activity he is spreading far and wide the knowledge and skill which conduces to alleviate human suffering—a work which has one of the best objects a man can set before him. I congratulate you all.

The proceedings then concluded.

IMPUDENT FRAUDS IN THE COLONY.

A WARNING TO SHOPKEEPERS.

The police are at present actively engaged in finding the whereabouts of a Chinaman who has lately been reaping a good harvest by committing "clock glancingly impudent frauds on shopkeepers." A few days ago he went to a money changer in Gough Street and said, "I want change for \$50." The money changer said he was sorry he could not oblige the man as he had not sufficient change. "Oh, never mind," replied the Chinaman, "give me \$25 now and I will call for the remainder to-morrow." He then put a note on the counter, received \$25, and walked quietly off. He has not yet returned for the rest of the money, however, and the reason is easily explained. The note was really a \$5 note, but this tricky Chinaman had carefully added an "0" to each 5 at the corners, and in this way was able to impudently cheat the shopkeeper. It is rather extraordinary, though, that the barefaced swindler was enabled to carry out his bold design, as he had not in the least degree altered the word "five" in the centre of the note. The trick having proved successful in this one case the man decided to try again, and once more he managed to swindle a shopkeeper, but this time he obtained the full amount of \$50. He called at 97, Station Street, on Sunday and with a five dollar note—an "0" being added to each \$5—he obtained \$50. A description of the fellow has been circulated and it is as follows:— "Wanted, for passing a false \$50 note at 97, Station Street, on the 10th inst, a Chinaman, 30 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches in height; wearing a black woollen jacket, black leggings, and Chinese riding boots. Spoke Nam Hoi dialect."

The native authorities at Wuhu arrested four members of the *Kolao Hui* a short time ago, one of whom was the notorious Wên Lao-yao, one of the principal chiefs of that society. This man and his three companions were arrested in their house-boat shortly after their arrival at Wuhu, having been recognised by a casual acquaintance, who betrayed them to the police. It is expected, the *N. C. Daily News* says, that the captives will be beheaded about the middle of February.

THE MURDER IN WINGLOK STREET.

POLICE OFFICERS COMMENDED.

On the 6th inst. Mr. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police, performed a pleasing duty. He called into his room Inspector Quincey, Inspector Kemp, P.C. Palmer, P.S. Jewar Singh, P.C. Han Hing, and P.C. Li Chung, and told them that His Excellency the Governor had been pleased to approve of the recommendation made by him as Captain Superintendent of Police that their action in connection with the case of murder and robbery that occurred in Winglok Street on 22nd November last should be recognised. The following awards had been made—Inspector Quincey, highly commended for enquiries made; Inspector Kemp, highly commended for the able manner in which he conducted the case; P.C. Palmer and P.S. Jewar Singh commended for assisting in the capture of one of the five prisoners; P.C. Han Hing and P.C. Li Chung awarded \$10 for assisting in the capture of another prisoner.

THE N. D. L. STEAMER "PRINZ HEINRICH."

The Norddeutscher Lloyd steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, which left Singapore on Saturday, the 9th inst., about midnight, being due here about Friday morning, is the second of the Company's steamers built by F. Schichan in Dantzig. The *Prinz Heinrich* is a sister-ship of the *Prinz Regent Luitpold*, launched early in 1894 and now running on the Australian line. The *Prinz Heinrich* attained on her trial trip an average speed of 17½ knots. She is a steel twin-screw steamer of about 7,000 tons, measuring 460 feet in length, 52 feet in breadth, and 33 feet in depth (measured from the main-deck). The accommodation for passengers has been further improved, particularly to suit the tropical climate. The well-known elegant saloon arrangement of the Norddeutscher Lloyd Company's steamers will be found again on board the *Prinz Heinrich*, but instead of the Baroque style formerly in use the modern English style has been adopted; but with all their elegance the saloons at the same time will be found highly comfortable.

The *Prinz Heinrich* will dock here for scraping and painting the bottom before proceeding to Shanghai, as the present dock arrangements at Bremerhaven are not large enough to permit the steamer to go into dock there. It also appears quite possible that the *Prinz Heinrich* and the newly lengthened *Preussen* always will have to dock here in the course of the next one or two years, until the dock arrangements at Bremerhaven are sufficiently improved to allow the steamers to dock at that port. We also understand that the *Prinz Heinrich* on her return from Shanghai is likely to be thrown open to the public for a general inspection.

The Nanyang squadron, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 4th inst., is now safely ensconced behind the Kiangyin forts. There are five large and two small vessels, one of the latter being used as a guard-boat, on which lives the foreigner whose duty it is to board all vessels bound up river. The other men-of-war have their topmasts struck and are in fighting trim. On shore at Kiangyin there are a number of foreigners who are acting as drill instructors, but the description given of them by the captain of one of the Chinese men-of-war is not at all flattering, though no doubt there are some good men amongst them.

The Chinese envoys on landing at Kobe met with an unpleasant reception. As the party left the hatoba, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, the large crowd assembled uttered a prolonged yell, and for a few moments matters looked critical, but fortunately the crowd did not proceed to translate their unmistakably hostile feelings into action, or it might have gone ill with the Chinese envoys, as the force of police, though large, would scarcely have been sufficient to cope with a mob determined on violence. With regard to this incident it is only right to say that the crowd was composed mainly of coolies, very few members of the better classes being present or taking part in a demonstration that reflects but little credit on the Japanese reputation for politeness to guests.

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LTD.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the eighth ordinary annual meeting, to be held at the Company's office, No. 4, Praya Central, at noon on Friday next:—

The directors have now to submit to shareholders their report with a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1894.

ACCOUNTS.

The gross revenue derived from wharfage, landing, &c. amounted in 1894 to \$275,942.20 as against \$231,473.64 the previous year, showing an increase of \$44,468.56.

The nett profit at credit of working account after writing off \$22,792.24 for repairs to the property and including \$9,225.40 brought forward is \$75,924.02 from which have to be deducted, interim dividend \$25,000
Directors' fees 6,000
Auditors' fees 500

\$1,500.00

leaving available for appropriation \$41,424.00

From this it is proposed to pay a final dividend of \$1.75 per share, which with the \$1.25 paid in July makes \$3, or 6 per cent. for the year, and to carry forward the balance of \$9,424.02 to next account.

The Company's business during the first six months promised well for a very good year, but during the latter half it suffered considerable diminution in consequence of the falling off in the Import trade caused by the plague, which brings the year's working down to an average one.

DEBENTURES.

On the 1st October last \$100,000 of the Company's debentures fell due and on the proposition of a sub-committee appointed to deal with this question the directors decided, in order to put the debentures on a legal footing, to execute a mortgage deed and renew the loan for a period of ten years at the same rate of interest as before, which was agreed to by all the original bondholders.

DIRECTORS.

The directors regret to record the death of their late colleague Mr. H. Hoppius; the vacancy thereby created has been filled by Mr. N. A. Siebs.

Mr. C. Jantzen having resigned on leaving the colony, his place has been taken by Mr. St. C. Michaelson. Both these appointments require confirmation.

Messrs. A. G. Wood and J. Kramer retire in rotation according to the articles of association, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. T. I. Rose and E. Henderson have audited the accounts now presented and the directors recommend them for re-election.

J. J. KESWICK, Chairman.

Hongkong, 8th February, 1895.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

Dr.		Cr.	
To value of land and buildings at Kowloon as per last account		1,207,010.52	
To since expended		855.00	
To value of 4 wharves at Kowloon		1,207,865.52	
To value of rolling stock at Kowloon		100,000.00	
To transferred from West Point		2,000.00	
To value of launches Kowloon, Hongkong, and Heron as per last account		10,000.00	
To since expended		2,325.00	
To value of lighters		6,390.00	
To value of West Point reclamation (44,435 square feet at \$4)		177,740.00	
To West Point godown		9,399.51	
To value of West Point wharf		15,000.00	
To value of shears		500.00	
To value of furniture and plant as per last account		5,000.00	
To since expended		2,082.69	
To Sui Lock Hing		7,032.69	
To Ho Tung		22,000.00	
To sundry debtors		32,000.00	
To Hongkong Bank, No. 2 account		35,229.57	
To cash in hand		278.25	
To value of stationery on hand		426.21	
To value of coal on hand		947.26	
To value of timber, iron, and stores on hand for repairing wharves		56.19	
		21,957.01	
		\$1,671,197.21	

Cr.		Dr.	
By capital (20,000 shares at \$50 fully paid-up)		1,000,000.00	
By Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		33,179.95	
By debentures outstanding		455,000.00	
By sundry creditors		70,325.27	
		558,505.22	
By profit and loss account (suspense)		102,989.72	
By dividend account (unclaimed balance)		278.25	
By working account		9,424.02	
		\$1,671,197.21	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (SUSPENSE).

Dr.		Cr.	
To interest		\$ 0.	
To fractional certificate account		7,135.70	
To balance		272.50	
		102,989.72	
		\$110,397.92	
By balance from 1895		\$ 0.	
		110,397.92	
		\$110,397.92	

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.		Cr.	
To wages of permanent staff		\$ 0.	
To Crown rent		55,741.54	
To taxes		7,653.63	
To charges (office and telephone rent, stationery and printing, collecting commission, sundries, &c.)		7,190.44	
To legal expenses		8,381.34	
To fire insurance		459.75	
To claims on cargo		1,493.05	
To expenses on cargo and coal, coolie hire, &c.		1,432.35	
To expenses of lighters		90,037.82	
To expenses of launches		883.43	
To repairs		4,756.69	
To interest		22,792.24	
To interim dividend		18,387.95	
To final dividend		25,000.00	
To directors' fees		35,000.00	
To auditors' fees		6,000.00	
To balance to be carried to new account		500.00	
		9,424.02	
		\$295,144.25	

Dr.		Cr.	
By balance from 1893		\$ 0.	
By bonus for 1892, fire insurance account		9,225.40	
By storage account 1893		140.58	
By sale of lighters		46.07	
By wharfage, storing, landing, &c.		9,790.00	
		275,942.02	
		\$295,144.25	

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, to the ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Company, No. 14, Praya, Hongkong, on Monday next, at 3 o'clock p.m.

To the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you their report, with a statement of accounts for the half-year ended 31st December last.

The total receipts for the six months are \$773,304.79, and the net profit, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$133,662.77 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account 37,973.95

and from this have to be deducted—

Directors' fees	\$4,000.00
Auditors' fees	400.00
	4,400.00

leaving available for appropriation \$172,236.72

The directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 7 per cent., or \$109,375, be paid to the shareholders, a bonus of \$100 to contributing shareholders, that \$35,000 be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, \$5,000 from the steam launches, and the balance \$22,761.72 carried to new account.

The work of lengthening the No. 3 Dock at Kowloon is now so far advanced that it admits of the dock being utilized. With the increased length this dock will be found most serviceable.

DIRECTORS.

The directors sincerely regret the sad death of their colleague Mr. H. Hoppius, who had been a much esteemed member of the Board for twenty-three years. Mr. C. Jantzen having left the colony Messrs. N. A. Siebs and S. C. Michaelson have been invited to fill these vacancies. Mr. J. H. Lewis has also been asked to join the Board. These appointments have to be confirmed at this meeting.

In accordance with clause 60 of the articles of association Messrs. Henry Hope Joseph and Julius Kramer retire. Mr. Joseph intends leaving the colony shortly, but Mr. Kramer being eligible offers himself for re-election.

Mr. G. B. Dodwell has been appointed Chairman for the year 1895.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. S. G. Bird and Fullarton Henderson, Mr. Thos. Arnold having left the colony on leave of absence. The directors recommend Messrs. Thos. Arnold and S. G. Bird for re-election.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Chairman.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT, JULY TO DECEMBER, 1894.	
31st Dec., 1894.	ASSETS.
Aberdeen.	\$ c.
To value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last statement.....	100,000.00
Kowloon.	
To value of Kowloon Docks, as per last statement ...	1,130,865.40
Less amount since written off	30,000.00
	1,100,865.40
Cosmopolitan.	
To value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement	300,000.00
To value of plant added last six months	11,058.88
	311,058.88
Tug, Launches, and Lighters.	
To value of Fame	21,453.71
To value of 10 steam launches, 1 steam lighter, and boats, as per last statement	29,000.00
Less amount since written off	5,000.00
	24,000.00
To sundry debtors	131,513.22
To cost of material on hand	722,457.81
	<u>\$2,411,349.02</u>

31st Dec., 1894.	LIABILITIES.	\$ c.
By shareholders for 12,500 shares of \$125 each fully paid-up	1,562,500.00	
By Admiralty loan	220,000. 0.0	
Less repayments ...	5,541. 2.8	
	<u>214,458.17.4 @ 2s.</u>	144,598.67
By sundry creditors	527,623.63	
By balance of profit brought forward from last account ...	37,973.95	
By profit	138,662.77	
	<u>176,636.72</u>	
	<u>\$2,411,349.02</u>	

REVENUE ACCOUNT.	
31st Dec., 1894.	\$ c.
To cost of labour, material, and working expenses at the Company's three establishments	586,099.54
To interest	18,665.73
To fire insurance	1,172.61
To Crown rent	1,460.55
To office expenses, salaries, stationery, and rent of head office	16,493.51
To drawing office expenses and salaries ...	2,812.67
To telegrams	514.78
To legal expenses	225.64
To balance at debit of Admiralty loan exchange adjustment account, written off ...	7,201.99
To profit	138,662.77
	<u>\$773,304.79</u>

1st July to 31st Dec., 1894.	\$ c.
By gross earnings of the Company's three establishments	766,673.21
By towage net earnings	2,756.27
By transfer fees	175.00
By bonus on premia, &c.	3,700.31
	<u>\$773,304.79</u>

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-sixth ordinary meeting to be held at the Company's offices on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at noon:—

The directors beg to submit their annual report and statement of accounts made up to the 31st December last. 1894.—The balance at credit of working account, as per last report, was	\$218,495.49
Deduct Dividend of \$3 per share paid in 1894	\$80,000.00
Deduct claims under 1893 policies paid in 1894	27,199.41
Deduct return premia, &c., &c., paid in 1894	6,062.80
	<u>93,261.74</u>

Balance of profit

It is proposed to apportion this sum as follows:—\$60,000 to shareholders as a final dividend of \$3 per share, making \$6 for the year; \$27,025 as a bonus to contributors of premia; and the balance, \$37,808.75, to the credit of working account 1894.

1894.—The premium income for this year shows a good increase, but unfortunately the losses have been greater than in any similar period of the Company's history. The bulk of these occurred in Manila, where two fires, on 21st September and 9th December, involved the Company in several distinct losses, amounting to \$151,023, inclusive of \$30,347 loss in exchange. Whilst deploring these occurrences your directors, after mature consideration, recommend the payment of the interim dividend as before, viz., \$3 per share.

With regard to properties upon which the Company has granted loans upon mortgage, the Board is of opinion that they afford ample security for the advances made.

DIRECTORS.
The Board deeply regrets the loss of the late Mr. H. Hoppling, who, during 21 years, zealously forwarded the Company's interests. Messrs. S. C. Michaelson and N. A. Siebs have been invited to fill vacancies on the Board, and these appointments require the confirmation of shareholders. Messrs. Kramer and Dalrymple retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.
During Mr. B. Lyall's absence from the colony owing to ill-health Mr. W. Hutton Potts has audited the annexed accounts in conjunction with Mr. J. H. Cox. Messrs. Cox and Lyall retire and are eligible for re-election.

A. G. WOOD, Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1894.	
LIABILITIES.	
Capital account	400,000.00
Reserve fund	875,000.00
Accounts payable:—	\$ c.
Final dividend for 1893	60,000.00
Bonus for 1893 and sundries	60,635.23
	<u>120,635.23</u>
Working account 1894:—	
Balance at credit	108,772.47
Transferred from 1893	37,308.75
	<u>146,081.22</u>
	<u>\$1,541,716.45</u>

ASSETS.	
Cash at Bankers	\$ c.
Fixed deposits at Banks:—	
Hongkong and Shanghai	\$ c.
Banking Corporation	340,000.00
Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.	95,000.00
Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.	25,000.00
	<u>460,000.00</u>
Investments:—	\$ c.
Chinese Imp. Govt. E. bonds	109,699.25
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, debentures	50,000.00
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited debentures	49,877.40
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., debentures	41,617.07
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Limited, debentures	8,472.22
	<u>259,665.94</u>
Loans on mortgage:—	
On properties in Hongkong	716,125.00
Inland lot No. 685:—	
Assigned by mortgagor	20,000.00
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Limited. Four shares	522.00
Furniture account:—	
Office furniture, &c.	500.00
Accounts receivable:—	
Premia due from agencies, interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	49,011.42
	<u>\$1,541,716.45</u>

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1894.	
Dr.	\$ c.
To charges account:—	
Rent, salaries, legal and surveyors' fees, taxes, stamps, stationery, &c.	25,299.83
Directors' and auditors' fees	7,400.00
	<u>32,699.83</u>

To commission account:—	
Agents' commissions	15,920.34
To fire brigades account:—	
Contributions at agencies, &c.	927.95
To losses account 1894:—	
Claims accruing to this year paid	178,154.34
To amount written off:—	
Furniture account	67.40
To balance	<u>108,772.47</u>
	<u>\$336,542.33</u>

By premium account:—	\$ c.
Net amount of premia collected	252,230.61
Less re-insurances	6,789.22
	<u>245,441.39</u>
By interest account:—	
Amount at credit, including interest due on deposits and investments, &c.	90,902.43
By transfer fee account:—	
Amount at credit	<u>198.51</u>
	<u>\$336,542.33</u>

Huang Kung-tu, the Chinese Consul-General at Singapore, arrived at Shanghai by the last English mail from the Straits Settlements, and has proceeded to Nanking. The *N. C. Daily News* is informed that Mr. Huang had been telegraphed for by the Viceroy Chang to go to Nanking to assist in the management of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs there.

THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE CO., LIMITED.

The fourth ordinary annual meeting of the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Limited, was held on Tuesday afternoon at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Meyer & Co., 5, Queen's Road Central. Mr. H. Garrels presided and there were also present Messrs. P. Sachse, H. Stollerfoht Consulting Committee, C. Heermann, C. Sharp, J. G. Schroter, C. Palmer, F. Henderson, H. Ehmer, C. Kleinschmidt, and Kwok A Lung.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, we will, with your permission, take them as read. There is not much for me to add to them. As you will have seen, the net result of the year is about the same as that of 1893. As against a slight falling off in gross receipts there is a corresponding saving in expenses. Our receipts have somewhat suffered through both the plague and the war. During the prevalence of the former several steamers, which in the ordinary course of events would have called at Hongkong and discharged into our godowns, avoided the place, whilst the war kept some Japanese steamers away from the colony. You will observe that we propose to carry forward the amount of \$1,438.82 to new profit and loss account, which some of you may perhaps think is rather much. However, as we have no reserve fund this is done to be prepared for eventualities, such as damage by typhoons. In this connection I am glad to say that the many gales or typhoons of the last year did hardly any damage to our property. We have spent rather more on the buildings than was absolutely necessary by having them redrained, so as to connect the drains with the new Government system of drainage. We did this as a precaution, if unhappily the sickness should again visit the colony, that we should anyhow have done all in our power to prevent it from spreading to our premises, which would also, apart from everything else, be a calamity to the Company from a pecuniary point of view. This is all that occurs to me, but if any one of the shareholders present has any questions to ask I shall be glad to answer them.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN said—There being no questions, I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. EHMER—I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

Carried.

Mr. PALMER—I have great pleasure in proposing that Mr. Sachse and Mr. Stollerfoht be re-elected as the Consulting Committee.

Mr. EHMER—I second that.

Carried.

Mr. SHARP—I have much pleasure in proposing the re-election of Mr. Henderson as auditor for the year.

Mr. KLEINSCHMIDT—I second the resolution.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I thank you very much for your attendance. The dividend warrants will be sent out to-morrow.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:—

The General Managers beg to submit to the shareholders their report on the working of the Company and a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1894.

The net profits of last year's working, including \$762.64 brought forward from last account, amount to \$7,268.82, out of which the General Managers, with the approval of the Consulting Committee, recommend to pay a dividend at the rate of six per cent., absorbing \$5,850, and to carry forward the balance of \$1,438.82 to new profit and loss account.

The buildings of the Company are in a fair state of repair.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Mr. P. Sachse and Mr. H. Stollerfoht retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, whose re-election is recommended.

MEYER & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 2nd February, 1895.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31st DECEMBER, 1894.	
To capital account: 2,600 shares at \$100, of which \$37.50 are paid-up	\$ 97,500.00
To mortgages of	\$140,000.00
To mortgages of	20,000.00
	<u>160,000.00</u>
To sundry creditors	\$ 805.50
To balance of profit and loss account	<u>7,938.82</u>
	<u>\$269,294.32</u>

By Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$ c.
By property account	6,380.06
By sundry debtors' account	260,000.00
	2,914.26
	<u>\$269,294.32</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1894.

To Crown rent and taxes	\$ c.
To interest account	3,589.98
To balance:—	9,031.04
Consulting Committee	\$ 600.00
Auditor's fee	100.00
Net profit	7,288.82
	<u>7,958.82</u>
	<u>\$20,609.84</u>
By balance from 1893	\$ 762.54
By balance of working account	19,847.30
	<u>\$20,609.84</u>

HONGKONG ICE CO., LIMITED.

The fourteenth ordinary annual meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong Ice Co., Limited, was held at the offices of the Company, Pedder's Street, at noon on Saturday. The Hon. J. J. Keawick presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. F. Alford, K. McK. Ross, W. A. Cruikshank, W. Parfitt, F. N. Firth, R. T. Wright, D. Landale, G. T. Veitch, Ryle Holme, W. Parlans (Manager), Ho Tung, and Ho Fook. The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, there is, as usual, little for me to remark on the satisfactory report and accounts now in your hands, but I am sure shareholders must be gratified to see the steady earnings and dividends of the Company. You will be interested, I have no doubt, to know that the demand, although varying very much from time to time, shows an aggregate increase, notwithstanding the fact that many of the larger steamers have been fitted with cooling chambers and ice-making plant, which will deprive the Company of their custom. The total sales for 1894 were in excess of those of the previous year. The Company's machinery and premises are in first rate order, and the extension of the works by the addition of four new chambers at a cost of \$13,080 was completed last March and proves very serviceable. The Company is thereby enabled to carry more ice in stock and also to do increased work. Other additions to the machinery have to be made in the course of the present year to make the establishment equal to all emergencies. The Manager, Mr. Parlans, has returned to his post after a well earned holiday, and during his absence his place was efficiently filled by Mr. McMurray, who was temporarily engaged. I have no further remarks to make upon this very interesting and satisfactory report, but I shall be glad to answer any question that any shareholder may wish to put to me before I propose its adoption. No questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN—I propose that the reports and accounts as presented be adopted and passed. Mr. R. T. WRIGHT—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The only other business, gentlemen, is the election of auditor for the coming year. During the absence of Mr. Arnold Mr. Ross was asked to audit the accounts and as Mr. Arnold is expected to return shortly I have to propose his re-election.

Mr. FIRTH—I have much pleasure in seconding.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting. I am very much obliged to you for your attendance. The dividend warrants will be issued on Monday morning.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the Green Island Cement Co., Limited, was held on the 8th inst., at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co. There were present Messrs. J. Kramer (Chairman), J. Orange, C. Ewens, Poon Pong (Directors), L. Suidter (Secretary), W. H. Ray, G. Murray Bain, R. Shewan, Wong Shing, E. Terry, W. Bamsey, E. Goetz, and R. Rustomjee. The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, at the pri-

vate meeting held on December 1st last we proposed to you a scheme of reconstruction, to which you gave your consent. Since then the prospectus of the new Company has been issued and circulated and subscriptions for shares have been solicited, but to my great regret I have to inform you that the proposed scheme has not met with sufficient support. We have therefore been compelled to abandon the same. As mentioned to you at the private meeting your General Managers are not prepared to provide further capital for the carrying on of the Company on the old basis. They have therefore decided to resign, and Messrs. Shewan & Co. have offered to pay off the Company's indebtedness to them and to find the funds for continuing the business. We have, with the consent of the Directors, called this meeting in order to pass the necessary resolutions for the transfer of the management to Messrs. Shewan & Co. At the extraordinary general meetings of the Company held on the 12th April, 1892, and 5th May, 1892, some special resolutions were passed concerning the reconstruction of the Company. This reconstruction had subsequently to be abandoned and the resolutions have now to be annulled. I therefore propose, "That the special resolutions of this Company passed and confirmed at extraordinary general meetings of this Company held respectively on the 12th day of April, 1892, and the 5th day of May, 1892, be and the same are hereby annulled," and shall be very pleased if any of the gentlemen will second this resolution.

Mr. W. H. RAY seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I now beg to propose that Messrs. Shewan & Co. be appointed General Managers of the Company, such appointment to date from the 28th February, 1895.

Mr. RUSTOMJEE—As one of the shareholders I should like to know what Messrs. Shewan & Co. are going to charge as commission.

The CHAIRMAN—I am not in a position to tell. I do not know.

Mr. RUSTOMJEE—I think it should be made known to the shareholders.

Mr. SHEWAN—I don't say we will not charge more than we are entitled to as General Managers.

In answer to Mr. RUSTOMJEE the CHAIRMAN said the commission had hitherto been 5 per cent.

Mr. MURRAY BAIN—I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution that Messrs. Shewan & Co. be appointed General Managers.

Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—A confirmatory meeting will be held on the 28th of this month, on which date the accounts of the Company will also be presented to you. That is all the business. I thank you very much for your attendance.

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY LIMITED.

The eighth ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Dairy Farm Co., Limited, was held on Monday, at noon, at Telegraph House, Queen's Road. Mr. Granville Sharp presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. Burnie, J. W. Noble, Douglas Jones, J. M. E. Machado, (Directors), W. H. Potts (Secretary), J. Walker, (Manager), C. M. Adamson, G. C. Cox, W. H. Ray, G. H. Potts, and H. S. Bird.

The CHAIRMAN said—Well, gentlemen, we have during the past twelve months done our best. We have not achieved any very great success, but we do not think that is our fault. I think it is only right to draw your attention to the fact that we have worked for nothing. We have been doing that now for nine years past, and I think we ought not to pledge ourselves in any way for the future; but we really are entitled to something if we work and do our best. The report has been in your hands for some days, and if you will allow us we will take it as being read. There is not much to remark upon it. I last year drew your attention to the fact that our property stood then at the same figure as it stood during the previous year. I now desire to draw your attention to the same fact. We have not re-valued our property. It stands in our books at that which we have paid for it. Some of you may think that it is not worth the money; others think that it is worth more than the money. At any rate it is said, very fairly, that the property was

purchased for a special object, and that for that object it may be worth the money to us, although it might not sell for that amount if put upon the market. The report at the bottom shows a balance of \$2,691.46, which it is desired should be carried over. It may be thought by some that it would be better to write it off, but the majority of the Directors thought it was desirable to carry it forward, and therefore it goes forward. Whether it means that we have \$2,691.46 beyond our capital of \$100,000 might be a matter of opinion. In mine I do not consider that we have that surplus. I think it is right to draw your attention to the fact of the property, because it is a particular—a considerable—item in the accounts, and we take it at what it stands in our books. I said just now that we had not made a great success. I think, on the other hand, it might be said that we have made a great success in one respect. When I came here 36 years ago there was no milk to be had. We were as badly off then in Hongkong as they appear to be at present in India, according to a very interesting extract which was produced last week from *The Times of India* in the *Daily Press*, recounting the experience of the erstwhile Bazaar Master, who has now been superseded, and who, on arriving at his office, "found on his table beside the writing materials a small jug of milk accompanied by a letter from the wife of the Officer Commanding the Irregulars, calling his attention to the jug of 'so-called milk,' as she satirically puts it, which she had sent up for him to look at and taste, and concerning which she must beg him to answer the following questions at his very earliest convenience (very much underlined):—Is it really milk? Is it more than half water? Is it not dreadfully adulterated and calculated to make her dear children ill? Is it not a cruel and a wicked shame (more italics) that such a poisonous mixture should be sold in any properly looked after bazaar? Will Major Stout have the goodness to fine the milkman at least ten rupees at once?" When I was in India it was the same thing then, and so it has continued up to now. When I was in Hongkong first it was the same thing then. It is not the same thing now. We have beautiful milk. We have as good milk as we have good water. Both are of first quality and can be drunk with safety and given to one's child with thankfulness and gratitude; and I think now, even if we have not accomplished a great commercial success, we may flatter ourselves that we have been permitted to accomplish a great social success. I hope we shall have patience to enable us to work out this Company's history to a successful issue. With the qualifying remarks I have made I beg to propose the acceptance and adoption of the accounts and the report as presented to you.

Captain BURNIE—I second the motion.

Carried.

Mr. DOUGLAS JONES—I hope that you will not consider, as I anticipate perhaps the speech of the Chairman would lead you to imagine, that the rest of the Board have in their mind and think for a moment that the Dairy Farm is a philanthropic and charitable institution; I can say for one that that is not my view at all. I have got a considerable amount of capital in it, and I propose not only to make it a social success but a financial success, and I hope that within a very short time, or within a reasonable time, it will become a financial success.

Mr. MACHADO—I beg to propose the election of Mr. Douglas Jones and Dr. Noble as Directors.

Mr. RAY—I have very much pleasure in seconding.

Carried.

Mr. DOUGLAS JONES—I propose that Mr. Granville Sharp and Mr. Machado be re-elected Directors.

Mr. COX—I have very much pleasure in seconding.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The election of auditor is the next business. Mr. Lyall was invalidated and obliged to go down to the Straits for a short change. The accounts have been audited in the meantime by Mr. Henderson, and if you wish Mr. Lyall to be to be re-elected, will somebody propose him?

Mr. BIRD—I propose that Mr. Lyall be re-elected auditor.

Mr. G. H. POTTS—I second.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I wish I could say that the dividend warrants would be posted to-morrow,

and I only hope that Mr. Douglas Jones's ambition and desire may be fulfilled. I am very much obliged to you for coming here, gentlemen.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:—

The directors herewith present to the shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year ended 30th November, 1894.

The profit for the year, after writing off \$6,005.60 for depreciation, is \$2,691.46, which, in view of the experience of the last year, the Board considers it prudent to carry forward.

The herd of cattle has been largely increased during the past year and is now in excellent health and condition.

MEMBERS.

The Hon. C. P. Chater and Dr. Cantlie have ceased to be directors of the Company, and Mr. Douglas Jones and Dr. Noble have been invited to join the Board. Their election requires confirmation by this meeting. Mr. Granville Sharp and Mr. Machado retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Mr. Henderson for Mr. Robert Lyall, absent on leave, who offers himself for election for the current year.

GRANVILLE SHARP, Chairman.

Hongkong, 2nd February, 1895.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT TO 30TH NOVEMBER, 1894.

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cash in hand		3,186.52	
Cash on mortgage		16,000.00	
Cattle	\$24,150.65		
Written off	4,831.65		
		19,319.00	
Cattle on order		1,103.96	
Property farm lots 18, 19, 25 and 32		32,863.54	
Cow houses, stables, &c.		16,620.05	
Town depot		9,643.72	
Butter making machinery and other dairy utensils	2,244.95		
Written off	673.95		
		1,571.00	
Furniture		182.26	
Fodder on hand		1,374.00	
Accounts receivable		2,973.75	
		\$104,842.80	
LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital: 10,000 shares at \$10		100,000.00	
Dividend 1890/91		48.90	
Dividend 1892/93		120.00	
Accounts payable		1,482.44	
Depreciation account		500.00	
Profit and loss		2,691.46	
		\$104,842.80	
WORKING ACCOUNT.		\$	c.
Maintenance		8,847.01	
Wages		7,635.75	
Charges and up keep		5,358.41	
Bad debts and losses		246.18	
Depreciation account		500.00	
Written off cattle	\$1,831.65		
Written off dairy utensils	673.95		
		5,505.60	
Auditor's fee, 1892/93		25.00	
Profit and loss		2,691.46	
		\$30,809.41	
Balance from last year	\$5,316.47		
Less dividend	5,000.00		
		316.47	
Proceeds of produce		29,286.52	
Interest		1,195.92	
Transfer fees		10.50	
		\$30,809.41	

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The following is the Manager's report for December:—

August Shaft, 200 ft. Level—The No. 2 east crosscut has been extended a further distance of 33 feet, making it 149 ft. from the No. 1 north. It is still in dyke matter, but the ground is of a lighter colour and very much harder than it has been hitherto; we are pushing this point as much as possible in order to get out to the course of the Mill Gully reef. The south drive on the course of the north and south reef at this level has been extended 30' 6", making it 73 ft. from the No. 2 east crosscut. The face continues to show a strong body of ore, but up to the present it is too poor for the mill. I still have great hopes of this. The No. 2 crosscut has been re-started to connect with this point for ventilation and convenience of working.

Intermediate (150 ft.) Level—The No. 1 north crosscut has been driven a further distance of 22' 6", making it 134' 6" from August shaft. At 128 ft. it intersected Phillip's leader and connected with the winze sunk on the course of that leader from the 110 ft. level.

The ore is about 2 ft. wide and is payable; we are now stoping on it. The east drive on the course of the east and west reef has been extended 40 ft., making it 60 ft. from the No. 1 north crosscut. At 45 feet it came up to the course of the north and south reef and a drive has now been opened to go south on this; the ore is poor, but improves as it is being driven on. I feel confident we shall get good payable ore on this course directly. A drive west on the course of the east and west reef was commenced in the early part of the month and was continued up till a few days ago, when the ore being very poor and the men required elsewhere, it was discontinued. Distance driven 41' 6". Drives east and west were opened on the course of Phillip's leader and continued till the ends of the ore chute had been reached. Distance driven, east 32' and west 12'. I intend continuing the No. 1 north crosscut here some 30 feet further north to test a leader still further north which was payable at and above the 110 ft. level.

No. 1 South 110 ft. Level—The crosscut going south-east at this level has been extended 51' 6", making its total length 185' 6" from August shaft. It has not yet reached the course of the north and south reef, but must do so soon. I notice water has commenced to make in the face and the ground is becoming softer. The No. 1 north level has been repaired and is now in really good order. The winze sunk on the course of Phillip's leader has connected with the intermediate tunnel, as mentioned in an earlier portion of this report.

Upper Stopes—These are in good order and producing the usual quantity of fair grade ore for the mill. The little shaft at the west end of the tunnel through the heap of old headings has been sunk a further distance of 11' 6" and a drive driven off it 62 feet, where it met with old Siamese or Chinese workings. I am still prospecting here in the hopes of adding to our reserves of ore in the upper stopes.

Mill Gully Tunnel—This tunnel was continued west a further distance of 17 feet, making it 98 feet from its mouth, when black dyke formation hard met with this showing that we had passed the foot of the reef. Drives were opened out north and south, but I regret to say we had only driven a few feet when we broke into old workings, where of course the greater part of the reef had been taken out by the old workers. A small shaft to ventilate this point and to open up stoping ground has been sunk and connected. Depth of shaft 45 feet.

A tunnel to test the reef seen in the Kladi and Mill Gully tunnels at a point 260 ft. north of the former has been commenced and is now in 46 feet. This tunnel should reach the course of the reef at about 120 feet from its mouth and at a depth of 70 feet from surface.

Milling—This was carried on during 26 days, crushing 1,100 tons for a return of 403 ounces of melted gold, viz., 800 tons of ore from the mine for 358 ounces and 300 tons of old headings for 45 ounces.

Cyanide Plant—The continuous heavy rains have again greatly retarded this work, but now that the monsoon is almost over I am hoping for much better progress during the coming month. The laboratory has been completed and the chemist is at work on assays of ore, tailings, &c.

Labour—This is fairly plentiful.

Health—This is fairly good.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

BEST SCORE CUP.

The competition for this Cup, presented by the Club, commenced in September last and finished on Thursday, February 7th. The idea of the competition was originated by Mr. N. G. Mitchell-Innes and it was soon apparent how popular the 20 cent cards would be. The conditions of the Cup were that any member could play a round for the Cup at any time by the purchase of a card, price 20 cents, on which to record his score, the same card being properly authenticated by another member as scorer. The cards on completion of the round were deposited in a locked box and consequently the name and score of the winner remained unknown until the box was opened on February 8th. There were 177 entries in all, Mr. W. A. Duff winning the Cup and 40 percent. of the entrance money, the second and third prizes resulting in a tie between three other members, who will consequently have to play off for the money. The winner is to be heartily

congratulated on his success, which was thoroughly deserved.

The scores under 90 net are given below, the best score only of each member being recorded:—

BEST SCORE CUP.		
1	Mr. W. A. Duff	99 21 78
2	Mr. J. G. T. Buckle	103 24 79
	Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	103 24 79
	Mr. C. O. Bowring	106 27 79
5	Dr. W. F. C. Lowson	85 5 80
	Mr. G. Steward	88 8 80
	(P)	107 27 80
	Mr. C. H. Grace	102 22 80
9	Mr. C. Palmer	93 12 81
	Mr. J. Thurburn	99 18 81
11	Hon. N. G. Mitchell-Innes	91 9 82
12	Commodore Boyes, R.N.	97 15 82
13	Mr. E. W. Maitland	104 21 83
14	Dr. J. A. Lowson	84 So. 84
	Captain R. M. Rumsey	93 9 84
	Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	95 11 84
17	Mr. F. Maitland	106 21 85
	Capt. O. P. Marshall	112 27 85
19	Mr. J. Hastings	106 20 86
20	Mr. E. A. Ram	101 14 87
	Lieut. Lambert, R.N.	114 27 87
22	Mr. A. J. Leach	105 16 89

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

The last contest for the Captain's Cup under the monthly conditions took place in the Happy Valley from Saturday, 2nd February, to Monday, 4th February, and resulted in a win at the last attempt for the Hon. Secretary, who was fortunate in finding such an indifferent lot of returns in against him. The Happy Valley is in very fair order for golf at present and there is no excuse for such poor scores. The Sweepstakes resulted in a tie between Mr. Gershom Stewart and Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N., with net scores of 85 each.

Results:—

Mr. W. M. Thompson, R.E.	102	18	84
Mr. Gershom Stewart	93	8	85
Dr. J. A. Lowson	88	scr.	88
Mr. Clement Palmer	103	12	91
Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N.	115	24	91
Mr. J. G. T. Buckle	113	21	92
Mr. John Hastings	117	20	97

SWEETSTAKES.

Mr. Gershom Stewart	93	8	85
Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N.	109	24	85
Dr. J. A. Lowson	88	scr.	88
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	99	11	88
Mr. C. Palmer	103	12	91

Remainder over 100 or no return.

It now only remains for the twelve winners to play off for the final possession of Commodore Boyes' handsome trophy. The names will be published as early as possible under special rules for match play.

On a good though by no means very favourable golfing day, on account of wind and rain during the latter part of the play, a highly interesting and well contested match was played on the links at the Happy Valley on Saturday last in the semi-final tie for the Captain's Cup, resulting in a tie on the round of 18 holes. The play was very even throughout, as the subjoined record will show. At the 12th hole "even all" was the position, but in playing to the 16th hole the eventual winner had to succumb to a lost ball and give up the hole, making the score "dormy 2" in favour of his opponent. A happy and well directed play secured the 17th hole in 3 and brought the score to "dormy 1," leaving the match in much doubt, as the conceder of the 4 strokes in the match had to give his adversary a stroke at the last hole. This was successfully negotiated in 6, with his stroke in hand, thus making a tie of the round. The conditions being that in the event of a tie the players should play on another round until one of them won, the winner of the 18th hole led off, unfortunately landing in the mud on the edge of the second ditch, from which, however, he skilfully succeeded in "lifting" his ball clear of all "hazards." His opponent with equal ill-luck came to grief in the third ditch—water—from which he had to lift, thereby losing a stroke. Finally the 19th hole was halved in 7, but the winner having the good fortune of taking his handicap stroke at this hole was declared the winner of the match by one hole and will play in the final this week.

Buckle... 5 4 5 6 4 7 6 1 * 6 7 * 5 5 * 5 5 3 * 5 6
Thompson... 7 4 5 4 5 5 7 2 * 7 * 4 * 4 6 4 5 * 4 * 4 * 7 *

* Indicates holes not played out.

† Indicates lost balls and hole given up.

1st round, Buckle took 4 holes and Thompson 3 holes.

2nd round, Buckle took 4 holes and Thompson 5 holes.

2 holes being halved in the first round. The winner received a stroke from his adversary at the 1st, 6th, 12th, and 18th holes.

CRICKET.

A cricket match played in the Happy Valley on Thursday between H.M. ships *Leander* and *Peacock* ended in an easy victory for the former by an innings and 42 runs. Appended are the scores:—

"LEANDER."		
Lieut. Hale, c and b Shelford.....		59
Lieut. Coxon, b Shelford.....		45
Tremayne, b Shelford.....		4
Stewart, b Rees.....		1
Boobier, c Williams, b Shelford.....		2
Russell, c and b Shelford.....		0
Johnson, b Shelford.....		8
Mr. Walker, b Rees.....		3
Johnston, not out.....		5
Richardson, b Rees.....		0
Gregory, c and b Rees.....		0
Extras.....		13.
		130

"PEACOCK."		
First Innings.		Second Innings.
Capt. Laxton, b Hale.....	3	b Richardson.....
Mr. Rees, b Tremayne.....	2	b Hale.....
Lieut. Shelford, c Coxon, b Hale.....	13	b Hale.....
Kilner, b Tremayne.....	10	b Hale.....
Lieut. Pratt, b Tremayne.....	2	b Hale.....
Moore, c Coxon, b Tremayne.....	3	not out.....
Williams, retired hurt.....	1	did not bat.....
Powell, not out.....	1	b Richardson.....
Tremayne, b Tremayne.....	0	b Boobier.....
Extras.....	1	Extras.....
		3

28	63
----	----

RIFLE BRIGADE v. NAVY.

This match was played on the Cricket Ground on Tuesday. The Navy won the toss and went in first, Brotherton and Garde being the first to bat. Brotherton was soon dispatched, and on Garde being joined by Coxon the runs came fast, both batsmen being thoroughly at home. Finally Garde was well caught by Lee at slip after batting very well. At lunch the score stood 107 for four wickets. After lunch wickets fell fast. Coxon was clean bowled by Alexander for 47—a very well played innings. A stand was made by Morcom and Lord till the latter was run out. The innings closed for 164. The Rifle Brigade then went in and made 123 for seven wickets. Sergt Burton and Sanderson contributing 26 and 57 respectively. The latter, by misjudging his runs, marred an otherwise good innings by running out Gough and Lysley, and thereby altered the aspect of the game, as both were playing well. The game ended in a draw rather in favour of the Navy.

The following were the scores:—

NAVY.	
B. J. Brotherton, b Lee.....	2
R. B. Garde, c Lee, b Burton.....	34
L. Coxon, b Alexander.....	47
T. L. Shelford, b Lee.....	11
H. M. Elliott, c Burton, b Alexander.....	7
W. S. Frowd, run out.....	2
H. Sadler, hit wicket, b Lysley.....	0
W. C. Morcom, not out.....	32
E. Hale, b Lysley.....	0
P. Lord, run out.....	12
G. H. Sweeting, c Knox, b Lee.....	0
Extras.....	13
Total	164

RIFLE BRIGADE.

C. W. Knox, c Coxon, b Elliott.....	3
Sergt. Burton, b Shelford.....	24
L. T. B. Sanderson, not out.....	57
J. H. Thresher, lbw, b Elliott.....	0
J. E. Gough, run out.....	18
G. L. Lysley, run out.....	14
A. D. Boden, b Sweeting.....	0
E. Alexander, b Sweeting.....	0
E. V. Percival, not out.....	1
G. Pakey, did not bat.....	0
Pte. Lee.....	0
Extras.....	4
Total	123

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

LONG RANGE CUP AND SPOONS.

Saturday was not an inviting day for shooting, and in consequence the attendance was not good. Major Wrottesley won the Cup and Messrs. Staveley, Stewart, and Rosevere the Spoons. The following are the best scores:—

Name.	700 yards.	800 yards.	Total.	H'cap.	Gd.
Mr. Wrottesley, R.E.	46	30	76	8	84
Lt. C. B. Staveley, R.E.	21	40	61	12	73
Mr. W. Stewart.....	31	23	54	12	66
Mr. Rosevere, R.N.	20	18	47	13	60
Lt. Hutchinson, R.N.E.	26	21	47	8	55

Liu K'un-yi, the supreme commander of the Imperial armies of Chihli and Manchuria, left Tientsin on the 7th instant for Shanhaikuan to take command of the forces in the field.

Owing to the great increase of demands for tinned beef since last summer, the Kobe Abattir Company has been able to declare a 40 per cent. per annum dividend for the latter half of last year.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

CONTRAVENTION OF THE BUILDING ORDINANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—On the 6th inst. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire were charged with a contravention of the Building Ordinance and the technical but unintentional breach thereof was admitted by the representative of the firm, Mr. Ross Thomson. This gentleman candidly admitted that his firm were quite cognisant of the Ordinance, but stated the oversight in sending in plans for approval was no doubt due to the circumstance of the men who usually looked after that routine being absent. This explanation coming from such a source should have been deemed satisfactory and a nominal fine inflicted. I am aware that the colony is in want of funds, but I fail to see the propriety of making the Police Court a source of revenue by the infliction of heavy fines for technical breaches of Municipal or what ought to be Municipal Ordinances, with the alternative of two months' hard labour.

It is strange that not one of the papers has commented upon this quarterdeck justice and still more strange that the firm of Butterfield and Swire should not have appealed against the decision to the Supreme Court. I feel certain that if they had done so the fine would either have been remitted altogether or a nominal fine inflicted and that the Magistrate's alternative of two months' hard labour would have met with the strongest censure.

If the Acting Chief Justice is of opinion, and rightly of opinion, that even an honest hard working boatman or coolie should not be committed to a felon's jail to associate with criminals because he cannot or fails to pay a fine for some breach of traffic or harbour regulations, I wonder what his opinion would be of the fact that the representative of a firm which has perhaps done more for this colony than any other should be sentenced to a fine, with the alternative of two months' hard labour.

A severe sentence was pressed for by that genius of the first water Mr. Tooker, but he was no doubt acting under orders from his chief, Mr. Francis A. Cooper, who appears to have come back to the colony with only one idea in his head, viz., to make things as uncomfortable as possible for the mercantile community in return for the action of the Permanent Committee against his Department during his absence.

His Worship Commander Hastings, who I take it is the Quarterdeck Justice Magistrate of the Acting Chief Justice, in his decision said:—"You say you are doing a big business there and if anybody should know the Building Ordinance it is people in charge of these works" (forgetting that he had it in evidence that the people who knew were absent). "There can be no plea of ignorance. It appears to me a case of complete disregard of the Ordinance."

"Mr. Ross Thomson said—We did not plead ignorance."

"His Worship—Well, there has been neglect at any rate. The defendant is fined \$50 on each case, with the alternative of two months' hard labour."

This gratuitous insult to a considerable portion at least of the backbone of Hongkong ought to be taken up and resented by the Chamber of Commerce.

There is only one thing about it in which I see cause for congratulation, and that is that the worse the mercantile community of this badly governed colony is treated the sooner they will come together as one man to get the municipal control of their own affairs.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

COLONIST.

Hongkong, 8th February, 1894.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—Does it seem to you that Messrs. Butterfield & Swire in whining so over their proportionately inadequate punishment are procuring too much on their position in endeavouring to escape the well deserved result of knowingly breaking the law? The fact of any one's "contribution to the revenue" being "very large" gives no right to evade just regulations, and "position" ought to be followed by example. I will not comment on the bad taste—to say the least of it—in referring to the unfortunate re-

mark of the "leading Judge" except by saying that justice, even if "quarterdeck," may be better than old woman's law.—I am, sir, yours faithfully.

LITERA CANINA.

Hongkong, 11th February, 1895.

THE WATER SQUEEZE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Water, water, everywhere, but not a drop unless you pay for it.

DEAR SIR—A new imposition in the shape of a water tax has been sprung upon a certain section of the community. As it appears to be only the thin end of the wedge wherewith to enable the highly paid irresponsible heads of Government Departments to harass still further the long suffering public, I hope that the public who pay them may either gently or forcibly assist them to attain some higher ambition which would be more in keeping with the nature of their employment and the emoluments attached thereto. The fact that this new water tax is imposed upon one section of the European community while another section, either in more favoured districts or connected in some way or other with the Government, enjoys complete immunity tends to show that the scales of justice held by Mr. Cooper require a little regulating. The fact also that the Chinese can waste water to their hearts' content while their unhappy conquerors are suffering from being "cut off" does not tend to sweeten the bitter cup now full almost to overflowing.

Briefly, certain carefully selected victims have been notified in language which I look upon as crude that meters costing about \$170 each have been attached to their respective houses and that these inexpensive little toys have discovered that victims A, B, and C are using \$2 worth of water per annum more than they are entitled to under the Ordinance, and that unless victims A, B, and C perceptibly diminish the consumption instantaneously to the satisfaction of the P.W.D. genius or his representative or sign the enclosed agreement the supply will be cut off.

What Price this P.W.D. treatment, Mr. Editor? Water shame it is victims A, B, and C should have to plead to their own servants and get no redress. Let us take a peep at the "enclosed agreement" and see what their fate would be should they decide to sign it. They will have to pay the P.W.D. \$3 or \$4 a quarter for a meter they would rather be without; so much is clear. They will also have to pay all the year round for the surplus water consumed over and above 1 per cent. of their annual rating valuation. I am afraid that to the unofficial mind this does not convey very much, though no doubt to the superior intelligence of the official mind it is clear as the crystal water they want to tax. The charge to be made for the surplus water consumed is not stated; this is a very important omission and one which enables the Government officials to charge those victims whose fate is already sealed different prices at their own sweet will.

I do not know, Mr. Editor, whether you are a "fortunate" or a "victim," but your contemporary is a victim, and it is the duty of the press, the public, and particularly those about to be victimized, to obtain satisfactory replies to the following questions:—

(1) Why is one quarter of the European community being taxed while the other three quarters and the whole of the Chinese community get off scot free?

(2) Why should a charge be made for surplus water consumed during the summer months when Tytam and Pokfulam are overflowing?

(3) Why should any one have to pay for water obtained through the medium of leaky defective Government taps which one derives no benefit from and which perhaps damage one's property?

(4) What proof have the consumers got that the immaculate inexpensive toys before mentioned are not lying like a prospectus?

It is the duty of the Government to stop the waste caused by their own servants' neglect and by the Chinese and until they have a clean slate themselves not to stop honest citizens from getting a bath.—I am, dear sir, yours truly,

TUB.

Hongkong, 11th February, 1895.

Thou rascal, thou art worst in blood to run
And ledest first to win some vantage.
But make you ready your stiff bats and clubs.
Rome and her rats are at the point of battle,
The one side must have bail
(Or two months hard)—*Coriolanus*.

PROJECTED RAILWAYS.

(Special Telegram to the "North-China Daily News.")

Peking, 4th February.

A Censor, backed by one of the Imperial Princes, has memorialised the Throne to grant permission for the immediate building of a railway between the capital and the Yangtze provinces, and the Board of Revenue when questioned upon the matter by the Emperor also reported favourably upon the project. The reason given for the memorial was a comparison between the ease with which the Tientsin railway had transported troops during the war to Shanhaikuan and the difficulties and tardiness of the overland march from the south, in the absence of railways. It is reported that the railway material collected at Shanhaikuan, etc., will be utilised for the new line between Chihli and Kiangsu.

THE PANTOMIME.

The second performance of "Robinson Crusoe" took place on Monday (4th inst.) under the patronage of Commodore Boyes and the officers of the Fleet. There was a large and very enthusiastic audience, and successful as the pantomime was on the first performance it was even brighter and more lively on Monday, and the numerous naval jokes introduced in honour of the patrons excited much amusement. Encores were the order of the evening, Mr. Grace being recalled for his song "What craven dares to talk of his home," Mrs. Hagen for "It may be that the world is bright," and Mrs. Brown for "Alack a day!" All the dances were vigorously applauded and the fan dance and Spanish dance had to be repeated. The dance by Mrs. Brown and Mr. Grace was also encored but the demand was not complied with. The most urgent recall, however, was for Mr. Caldwell, whose eccentric dance pleased the audience immensely; the exertion was apparently too fatiguing for the performer to give a repetition, but it was a long time before the cheering subsided sufficiently to allow the piece to proceed. Another performance will be given this evening under the patronage of H.E. Major-General Digby Barker, C.B. The new drop scene, painted by Mr. Coughtrie, is now hung and was used on Monday night. The subject is a riverside meadow with trees in the background, and a man fishing and one or two other figures are introduced. The general effect is very pleasing and Mr. Coughtrie is to be congratulated on his production, which on Monday night was the subject of general admiration.

The third performance of "Robinson Crusoe" was given on Wednesday night, under the patronage of Major-General Digby Barker. There was again a full house and the audience was as enthusiastic as on the last occasion, almost every item being applauded to the echo.

Saturday night's performance of "Robinson Crusoe" by the members of the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club was highly successful. The piece ran smoothly throughout, the audience frequently applauded the efforts of the various artists, and several times during the evening bouquets were handed to many of the lady performers. Of course it was to be expected that the recent Building Ordinance case would form a resourceful peg upon which to hang jokes about "quarterdeck justice," &c., and the half dozen comical allusions to the case were much appreciated by those present. There are to be only four more performances of the pantomime and each of these should be well attended.

Another performance of the Pantomime was given on Tuesday night.

The native papers at Shanghai are very indignant at the scant courtesy of the Japanese in the treatment of the Chinese Envoys at Hiroshima. They declare that there now remains nothing more to be said, but war to the bitter end. If the credentials were really found to have been insufficient for the purpose of treating for peace the Japanese Government could at least have courteously informed the Envoys of the fact, and asked them to telegraph to Peking for further orders. If Peking refused to issue an Imperial decree granting the necessary powers to the Envoys, then would have been the time to order them out of the country.

HONGKONG.

A considerable amount of talk was occasioned during the week by the action of Commander Hastings in fining Mr. Mackintosh, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, \$50, in each of four cases, for contravention of the Building Ordinance, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment with hard labour. The Magistrate decided to review his decision, and took off the alternative of imprisonment, without, however, reducing the fine. Information was received by the last mail that Major-General Digby Barker, C.B., had been promoted to the rank of Lieut.-General, in consequence of the approaching retirement of Sir W. C. Drury-Lowe, K.C.B. The police officers who took an active part in the investigation of the Winglok Street murder have been complimented by His Excellency the Governor. At an extraordinary general meeting of the Green Island Cement Company it was resolved to transfer the management of the Company to Messrs. Shewan & Co., whose appointment dates from the 28th inst. Lieut.-General Digby Barker has a good opinion of the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and when he inspected a drill which the Corps went through he expressed himself as highly satisfied with it. He also distributed certificates to members of the St. John's Ambulance Association who proved successful in the last examination. As usual, no dividend is being paid this year by the Dairy Farm Co., Limited, but at the annual meeting the Chairman remarked that if the Company had not accomplished a financial success, it had, at any rate, accomplished a social success by distributing pure milk. This brought forth a remark from Mr. Douglas Jones that the Company was not a philanthropic and charitable institution. A cricket match between the Rifle Brigade and the Navy, played on Tuesday, resulted in a draw, the scores being—Navy 164, Rifle Brigade 123 for seven wickets.

The maximum temperature last month was 69.6, on the 1st, and the minimum 43.5, on the 19th. The rainfall amounted to 0.41 inch.

The stamp revenue last month amounted to \$17,317, showing an increase of \$3,392 on the amount collected in the corresponding month of last year.

Colonel Barrow, of the Hongkong Regiment, accompanied by Mrs. Barrow and family, returned from furlough yesterday, arriving by the P. & O. steamer *Rohilla*.

At a Chapter of Emergency of the Victoria Chapter, held on the 5th instant, Comp. G. A. Caldwell was elected Third Principal by Dispensation from the D.G. Superintendent, M. Ex. Comp. C. P. Chapter.

On Saturday evening the Chief and First Class Petty Officers of H.M. ships now in port held a smoking concert at the R. N. Seamen's Club. A good programme had been arranged and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

We are advised by the Secretary of the Pun-jum Mining Company of the receipt of a telegram from the mines to the effect that during the month of January the mill ran 27 days, crushing 615 tons yielding 300 ozs. of gold, and headings 405 tons yielding 50 ozs. of gold.

In addition to the official changes we recently announced as likely to take place shortly we learn that the Hon. N. G. Mitchell-Innes will go on leave and that during his absence Mr. A. M. Thomson will probably act as Colonial Treasurer.

On Sunday morning a carpenter removed a quantity of timber from No. 33, Bridges Street, placed it on a cart, and then despatched it to Wanchai in charge of half a dozen coolies. In Graham Street the coolies lost control of the cart, which travelled down the hill on its own impetus at a considerable rate, and before it could be stopped one of the coolies was run over. He sustained a broken leg and was removed to the Government Civil Hospital.

At 9:25 on Wednesday night a fire broke out on the premises of Choi Shu Ting, birds' nest purveyor, 73, Bonham Strand. The Fire Brigade, under Mr. Horspool, Deputy Superintendent, attended as quickly as possible and found that a kerosene lamp had fallen in the front room of the first floor. The place was well ablaze at the time, but the fire was extinguished in about fifty minutes. The premises were burnt out, and damage to the extent of \$6,000 was done. The adjoining property was not damaged. The contents were insured with Messrs. Scheele and Co.

Mr. Alf. Woolley, who will act as Superintendent of the P. & O. Company on the departure of Mr. H. H. Joseph, arrived here on the 6th inst. from Kobe by the P. & O. steamer *Java*, accompanied by Mrs. Woolley and family. We hear that Mr. Joseph will go home via Australia, where he will make an inspection of the Company's agencies. Mr. Woolley took charge of the Company's business at this port on Monday.

It has been decided, we believe, to offer rewards for snakes killed in the colony. In this connection it may be interesting to note that the *Allahabad Pioneer* suggests that instead of the Government of India paying money to snake-catching folk, "who have not the smallest idea of exterminating the venomous vermin by which they can make a profit," it should import and acclimatise two well-known birds of acknowledged prowess against such reptiles. One is the Secretary Bird of Africa and the other is the Australian Laughing Jackass—the far-famed "kookaburra"—both birds being protected in their native countries for their known enmity to snakes. There is little doubt that both birds will do well in India, and it would only be following the example of the Australians, who have introduced the Mynah bird from Manipur to deal with various pests.

At six minutes past one o'clock on Sunday morning the firemen were called to an outbreak at fire at No. 149, Queen's Road Central, an oil shop occupied by Ng Hing. The fire was a small one, fortunately, and was confined to the stairs leading from the back part of the shop to the first floor room. Ten minutes' work sufficed to put out the flames and the damage amounted to only about \$30. The origin of the outbreak was rather amusing. One of the employees of Ng Hing went to a compartment under the stairs with a lighted candle, which he placed in a box of shavings. When he left he forgot to take the candle away with him, and it was not long ere the shavings became ignited and the stairs were set on fire. Had the flames spread further the results would have been very serious indeed, as between thirty and forty barrels of oil were in the shop, and it was only owing to the promptitude of the brigade that the fire was kept within limits. Inspector Kemp was in charge of the police, and Mr. Horspool, Deputy Superintendent, also went to the shop, but by the time he arrived the flames had been extinguished. The contents of the shop were insured with the North German Fire Insurance Co. for \$6,000.

"Carping Critic" writes—"The spirit which prompted the publication of *The Imperial Institute Journal* may be willing, but the editing is decidedly weak." He refers to the heading "Commercial Collections of the Institute," under which it is stated that the corresponding agent in the colony of Hongkong is the Collector of Customs, and expresses the fear that with Government servants voting themselves exchange compensation such an official will soon be required, although up to the present this is fortunately, at least in name, a free port and certainly the Imperial Institute ought to know it. As it apparently does not it looks as if it were governed with as little wisdom as the colony. He also mentions as instances of inexcusable ignorance the quoting of the value of the dollar as three shillings and the Shropshire Regiment being put down as part of the garrison, and quotes the following as a queer jumble of fact and fiction:—

Straits Settlements.—British Silver Coinage in the East.—In consequence of the popularity which the Mexican dollar has for a long time enjoyed in Asia, the English Government has decided to coin a British dollar, which is destined to take the place of the Mexican silver one. The coinage will be carried out by the Bombay Mint on a "standard" prepared in London. This corresponds to the Japanese "Yen," and possesses, on the basis of the present market value of the white metal, an intrinsic value of 24d. in gold, but will be much more valuable in commerce, as the new coins will be more in circulation instead of the Mexican coins, when the needs of financial and trade circles in China, as well as Singapore and Japan, are taken into consideration.

The Introductory Notice states that it has taken the Institute six years to arrange a system of regular correspondence with the Colonies and that the latest information is collated from the advices of the special agents. The "Carping Critic" is curious to know who can be the special agent in Hongkong.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The new German flagship *Irene* arrived on the inst.

The death rate last month was for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 21.6 and for the Chinese community 17.1.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that under the provisions of Section 3 of the Reformatory School Ordinance, 1886, His Excellency the Governor has by writing under his hand certified that the West Point Reformatory School is fitted for the reception of such youthful offenders as may be sent there in pursuance of the above-mentioned Ordinance.

Mr. Robert Fraser-Smith, proprietor and editor of *The Hongkong Telegraph*, died at his residence here on Saturday night from congestion of the lungs. Mr. Smith arrived in Hongkong about nineteen years ago and joined the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. as clerk. He left that office in 1881 and started the paper which he has since conducted with great but sometimes misdirected energy.

With reference to the accident to the N.P.S. Co.'s steamer *Victoria* at Moji on the 28th ultimo, we learn from the Agents here, Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., that they have been advised of the safe arrival of the steamer at Kobe on the 31st and that, as the damage proves on thorough examination by the local surveyors to be less than was at first feared, the permanent repairs will be effected afloat at Kobe so as to permit of the *Victoria's* sailing thence about the 20th instant, possibly sooner. The cargo shipped at Hongkong will, therefore, be carried on to its destination by the *Victoria* herself. The telegrams do not say whether it will be necessary to discharge any of the cargo in order to complete the repairs.

The last volume of the *Botanical Magazine*, for 1894, is dedicated by Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker to Mr. C. Ford, Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, Hongkong, in the following terms:—"Dear Mr. Ford.—It is both a duty and a pleasure to offer you a dedication of a Volume of the *Botanical Magazine*, a work which contains figures of so many interesting and beautiful Chinese plants, introduced by you into the Royal Gardens of Kew. Let me at the same time offer you my hearty congratulations on the success of your official labours as Botanist and Forester, which have contributed so largely to the resources, the health, and the beauty of your Island Home.—Believe me, dear Mr. Ford, most truly yours, J. D. HOOKER."

In the *China Medical Missionary Journal* there are some notes by Dr. Kerr on the bubonic plague. Notwithstanding the great difference in conditions the epidemic ran its course *pari passu* in Hongkong and Canton and ended simultaneously in both. "Unfortunately statistics do not exist to show the comparative mortality in the two cities, and the reader must form his own opinion as to why the plague disappeared from Canton just as soon as it did from Hongkong. The Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board, referring to the vast amount of work done by the volunteers, affirms that it is 'still of the opinion that to the thorough cleansing and disinfecting of the houses in which the plague cases had occurred they owe the speedy stamping out of the plague.'" Dr. Kerr remarks on certain conditions and consequences of the plague and states that "evidence of the enlightening effect on the Chinese mind is shown in the fact that about the middle of the epidemic a temporary plague hospital was put up in the western part of the city of Canton, which had the merit of being thoroughly ventilated and was kept very clean. It was a large match built on piles over the water, and was an ideal hospital for an epidemic, except that the loose construction made it noisy when any one moved about in it. The Chinese are now building a new hospital in the city, in which it was at first the plan to have partly foreign treatment. The man who favoured this has died, and it remains to be seen whether the managers will still carry out the idea. It is, however, only a question of time. There are some eight or more drug stores in the city which sell foreign medicines, and there are not far from a hundred physicians in the Province who have been educated in the Medical Missionary Society's Hospital who are engaged in practice. The work of our lady physicians in the families is now an important factor in gaining favour for Western medicine."

A slight earthquake was felt at Foochow about 5.30 p.m. on the 27th ult. The shock lasted about thirty seconds, producing a tremulous and rolling motion.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) are in a position to positively and emphatically contradict a recent home telegram concerning Col. Denby's views on the prospects of peace. It was on the face of it extremely improbable that so experienced and cautious a diplomat as the Peking *doyen* should make such a startling admission as that there would be no prospect of peace till the Japanese were in the capital; the present delicate position of the American Ministers as intermediaries rendered the utterance of such an opinion still more unlikely, and we can assure our readers it was as groundless as it was untrue.

Five of the battalions of the Liangkiang provinces that had been sent to Shanghai for the protection of the Kiangnan Arsenal, started for the Yangtze ports on the 20th ult. This, the *N. C. Daily News* says, is in obedience to commands from Nanking, the Chinese authorities evidently believing at last that Shanghai is intended to be outside the sphere of warlike operations and that the Japanese will not be likely to disturb the Kiangnan Arsenal from the Shanghai side at any rate. Hence attention is being solely confined to strengthening the Yangtze and sea coast defence of the province.

A Newchwang letter quoted by the *N. C. Daily News* states that as soon it was rumoured that the Japanese intended to attack Yingkow a panic ensued amongst the people in the native portion of the port. Numbers moved into the foreign settlement, paying exorbitant sums for rent, while a still greater number engaged carts to flee to Shanhaikuan. Notice, however, was posted informing the people that General Sung was determined to protect Yingkow at all costs, and that 80,000 men would be ready to meet the enemy should they march northwards from Kai-chow. Quiet was accordingly restored, especially when large numbers of troops were seen marching southwards from Newchwang proper.

At a recent meeting the Yokohama Dock Company presented a list of its assets to the shareholders, together with a full report on the work done since its establishment last year. Copies of all the documents connected with the floating of the concern and of the estimates drawn and plans prepared by the late General Palmer for carrying out the scheme were distributed. It was stated that the work of reclamation and the general constructive part of the Company's project were to be completed by next December, so that the building of the docks themselves may be started within the year. At first the smaller dock, 350 feet long, will be proceeded with, the larger, 500 feet long, being undertaken should occasion require.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—"An officer commanding a British man-of-war landed at Nanking a few days ago, wearing his uniform, as he was about to pay an official visit to the Chinese authorities, when he was hooted at and mud was thrown at him by the valiant Nanking 'braves' who represent the garrison. A complaint was made to the Chinese Commander, but that worthy thought he had sufficiently done his duty by merely sending his card on board the man-of-war without a word of apology or regret, though he did send a petty mandarin and a soldier 'to protect' the Britishers next time they went on shore, which had the effect of preventing a repetition of the unruly behaviour first complained of. It is to be hoped that Admiral Fremantle will not allow this insult to be passed over quietly."

Count Oyama, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Second Army Corps, has addressed the following letter, dated Shantung Point, 24th January, to the Consuls at Chefoo:—"In case our army should find it necessary to occupy Chefoo, it is our intention to give as much protection to the neutral inhabitants as the military necessities will allow. As soon as the place is in our possession and before any Japanese troops enter the concession we will send a force of gendarmes to the Concession and establish order. I also declare hereby that apart from any question of international rights I will do my best to avoid as much as possible imposing our belligerent rights (quartering, requisitions, etc.) on the neutral inhabitants and their property."

The German steamer *Albingia* was at Chinkiang on the 2nd inst. According to the *N. C. Daily News* she came out from Hamburg and is loaded with guns, dynamite, and munitions of war for the Chinese, and being afraid of capture by the Japanese made a detour to reach her destination.

On the 27th January, we learn from the *Japan Gazette*, the splendid record of peaceable treatment accorded to the Chinese residents in Yokohama was broken, and at one time it looked as if some very serious outrage would be committed. Tong Cheong, a printer, was keeping the Chinese New Year, at his own house No. 51, Main Street, in company with upwards of fifty of his friends, and all were as merry as if Port Arthur did not exist. For some reason their merry-making was offensive to a mob of Japanese, who made a determined assault on the premises, battering at the doors and windows. The terrified Chinese fled from the back way—the Chinese always have a back-door to run away by—and sought the protection of Messrs. Caughell and Dow at the Banquet Restaurant, which was given. The noise alarmed other residents, but the policeman who usually stands at the corner was absent, and so information was sent to the Central Station. The mob learning this fact dispersed.

A contributor to the *Shanghai Mercury* writes:—"From Chefoo it is reported that the German Consular authorities at that port have suddenly awakened to a sense of the obligations of neutrality, and have therefore ordered all German military instructors, &c., at Weihaiwei to leave the Chinese to themselves. I have no doubt that the ten brave Teutons so ruthlessly recalled from the path of duty and dollars are greatly disappointed; also, considering the manner in which neutrality has been ignored elsewhere, and the very good thing being 'made in Germany' out of the war, it seems to me that the Consul might in this case have 'winked the other eye' until the fighting at Weihai was over. Certain it is that the Chinese will not appreciate the niceties of such international courtesies and that German prestige will suffer in consequence. Most foreigners lately employed in a military or naval capacity by the Chinese have, it may safely be presumed, been drawing pay with war risk additions. Whether such a game was ever worth the candle is an open question; but being in it the Chinese may well expect from the players some show of example as well as of precept. That it is an unpleasant we may admit; but such are the chances game war."

A native correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, writing from Peking, states that the Prince of Ch'ing, better known to the Peking world as the *Beileh* (Prince of the Third Order) I-K'uang has been under a cloud ever since the battle of Pingyang last September. It seems that the Emperor had good cause to be disgusted with the Prince, whose assertive ignorance of foreign politics—President of the Tsungli Yamén though he was—had lulled his Majesty into false security. When asked by the Emperor what should be done against the aggressiveness of Japan the Prince of Ch'ing is said to have averred that nothing need be feared and that diplomacy and a show of force would easily frighten the audacious islanders. The Prince did not care to show to his Majesty certain despatches dated April, May, and June, 1894, which he had received from the Imperial Resident at Seoul, Yuan Shih-k'ai, and Tong Shao-yi, the Acting-Resident, in which all the ambitious intentions of the Japanese had been clearly explained to the Tsungli Yamén, and declaring that strong measures were most necessary. After Pingyang, however, the Seoul despatches were carefully read and too late opened the eyes of the Emperor. This was what led to the reinstatement of Prince Kung to Imperial favour, but not until a scene had occurred in the Palace in which the chief actors were the Emperor and the Prince of Ch'ing. The crestfallen Prince finally left the presence with these words: "Well, so be it! But the moment the enemy crosses into Tientsin territory, let your head answer for your follies!" The next day the Prince of Ch'ing asked for sick leave, which was granted, and at the expiration asked to be relieved of all his Court and metropolitan posts with the command of the Peking Field Force, on the ground of protracted illness. He was given another couple of months' leave and allowed to retain only his Court sinecures, the rest being taken away from him.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Canton and Macao	7,597,185	8,178,734
Amoy	740,767	690,647
Foochow	13,777,348	21,329,281
Shanghai and Hankow	21,551,498	25,514,030
	43,706,798	55,721,692

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Canton	3,522,240	1,349,192
Amoy	16,894,981	19,376,012
Foochow	8,140,519	5,883,106
Shanghai	25,783,527	24,176,826
	54,340,367	50,785,136

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	22,555,223	21,619,462

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Yokohama	28,547,371	28,623,687
Kobe	16,682,616	16,880,822
	45,229,987	45,504,509

SILK.

CANTON, 12th February.—Work can scarcely be said to have been fully resumed as yet by the natives since their New Year holidays. Tsatlees and Re-reels—Remain as last reported, excepting that a slight revival of enquiry in Re-reels for America has resulted in the settlement of 70/80 bales at \$565/550/535 for Nos. 1, 2, 3 Grant-reeled, and \$555/540/525 for Nos. 1, 2, 3 ordinary reel. Still, there is so little left in stock that even the above are nominal as quotations. It would be impossible to buy any quantity. Filatures.—Many houses have not resumed working. Others still hold for the high rates at which the market closed before the holidays and which render business out of the question, so that, unless some change for the better occurs on the home markets, reelers will be obliged to lower their pretensions shortly. The only settlements reported since our last consist of 10 bales Mee Kee 13/15 and 10 bales Kum Lun Cheong 10/12 at \$655, 50 bales Kwong Lun Hing 13/15 at \$630, and 5 bales Kwong Loong Cheong 11/13 at \$620. For America 100 bales of third class shortreels 14/18/20, have sold for forward delivery at \$550/555. True 14/16 and 14/18 in this grade is almost unobtainable. Second class has not been dealt in. Extreme rates are asked. Waste.—A fair quantity of Market Steam Waste was settled early in the fortnight at \$76 1/77 per picul and little or nothing is now left on offer. Extra is firm and in fair supply at 96/98, but the quality of both grades leaves very much to be desired. Punjum and No. 2 Gum (the latter also very poor) have not been dealt in. Pierced Cocoons are offered at \$60. Stocks.—Tsatlee 150 bales. Cumchuck nil bales. Filature 1,200 bales. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons. Exchange, 6 months' sight, 1/11 1/2 and Fcs. 2.52 per Dollar.

Filature, 1st Class,	11/13	\$690	
1st "	13/15	\$680	
2nd "	10/12	\$650 to \$670	
2nd "	13/15	\$640 to \$660	
3rd "	10/12	\$640 to \$650	
3rd "	13/15	\$570 to \$590	
Punjum Books No. 3 & 4	\$ 95	=	1/7½
Punjum Waste	\$ 85	=	1/5½
Steam Waste Extra ...	\$ 97	=	1/8½
No. 1	\$ 77 to \$78	=	1/4½ to 1/4½
Pierced Cocoons.....	\$ 60	=	1/1
Settlements for the fortnight:—			
	1894-95.		1893-94.
For Europe ...	100 bales.		200 bales.
For America ..	220 "		50 "
For Bombay...	15 " & 10 pla.		30 " & 10 p

SHANGHAI, 7th February.—(From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's circular.)—London telegrams dated 5th inst. report the market "steady." Gold Killing 7/7 1/2 and Blue Elephant at 9/6. Raw Silk.—The week's business has been very small owing principally to the firmness of holders. Tsatlees.—We hear of no transactions. Some offers have been made on a lower scale for Gold Killing qualities, but the Chinese are holding out for Tls.

340, the basis on which the late purchases have been made. Taysaams.—Some Green Kahings and 9 by 12 Moss have changed hands at unchanged prices. Skeins have been taken at a small decline on previous rates. Yellow Silks.—Are in small request and prices do not show much alteration but are rather weaker. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from 31st January to February 6th, are 37 bales of White, 58 bales of Yellow, and 75 bales of Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures.—Nothing has been reported. Stocks are nearly exhausted for the season. Wild Silks.—No transaction. Waste Silk.—Tussah Waste has been dealt in to the extent of 600 piculs, No. 1 at Tls. 26, and No. 2 at Tls. 22. Long Shantung Waste has changed hands at Tls. 19 and Tls. 20 for whole bales. Stocks are much reduced. Pongees.—Nothing doing.

Purchases include:—Hangchow Tsatlees.—Lan-hock at Tls. 315. Taysaam.—Green Kahing Cicada 2 at Tls. 332 1/2, 9/12 Moss, Green Horse, 3, at Tls. 325, do. Green Stork 4 at Tls. 245. Skeins Leeyang.—Lucky Twins 3 at Tls. 280, Green Monster at Tls. 248 1/2, Red Monster at Tls. 227 1/2. Yellow Silk.—Mienchew at Tls. 251 1/2, Meeyang at Tls. 216 1/2, Fooying at Tls. 185 to Tls. 200.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1894-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton	12,577	14,180
Shanghai	44,121	42,829
Yokohama	18,544	15,592
Total to date	75,242	72,601

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1894-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton	6,528	2,534
Shanghai	7,051	2,132
Yokohama	21,796	15,592
	35,375	20,258

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—The market has ruled firm and there has been a further advance in prices. Quotations for Formosa are \$41.00 to \$41.50. Sales 100 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—Business has continued dull, but holders have been firm and the small business that has taken place has been done at an advance. Following are the quotations:—Shekloong, No. 1, White...\$7.60 to 7.67 per pel. do. " 2, White... 7.02 to 7.05 " Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.92 to 4.95 " do. " 2, Brown... 4.73 to 4.75 " Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.55 to 7.58 " do. " 2, White... 6.92 to 6.95 " do. " 1, Brown... 4.64 to 4.66 " Swatow, No. 2, Brown... 4.41 to 4.45 " Foochow Sugar Candy.....11.00 to 11.05 " Shekloong " 9.65 to 9.70 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The P. & O. steamer *Peninsular*, Hongkong to London, 3rd January, took:—3,446 boxes Tea (31,668 lbs. Congou, 7,350 lbs. Sorts, 20,013 lbs. Scented Capar, 13,335 Scented Orange Pekoe), 56 bales Canes, 280 bales Waste Silk, 14 cases Silk and 9 packages Sundries; for France:—275 bales Raw Silk, 4 cases Silks, 40 bales Canes, 40 bales Waste Silk, and packages Sundries; for Milan:—5 bales Raw Silk.

The steamer *Angerton*, Hongkong to New York, 9th January, took:—40 cases Blackwoodware, 945 rolls Matting, 9 cases Human Hair, 20 packages Rattans, 27 cases Ginger, 60 cases Essential Oil, and 933 packages Merchandise.

The P. & O. steamer *Pekin*, Hongkong to London, 17th January, took:—30 cases Bristles, 44 cases Silks, 140 bales Waste Silk, 18 bales Canes, 2 cases Blackwoodware, and 3 packages Sundries; for France:—1,719 bales Raw Silk, 12 cases Silk Goods, and 5 packages Sundries.

The steamer *Glenfruin*, Hongkong to London, 18th January, took:—2,281 boxes Tea (particulars unknown), 1,800 bales Hemp, 1,000 cases Preserves, 110 cases Ginger, 110 cases Soy, 40 boxes Bristles, 16 packages Effects, 6 cases Sundries, and 1 case Cigars.

The steamer *Yarra*, Hongkong to Continent, 23rd January, took:—694 bales Raw Silk, 8 bales Hair, 20 cases Essential Oil, 20 cases Bristles, 11 cases Staraniseed, 400 packages Bamboos, and 50 bales Tobacco Leaf; for London:—3 cases Silk Piece Goods.

The P. & O. steamer *Formosa*, Hongkong to London, 24th January, took:—7,518 boxes Tea (1,281 lbs. Congou, 141,582 lbs. Scented Capar, 7,476 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe, 6,200 Sorts), 465 bales Waste Silk, 21 cases Bristles, 58 cases Canes, 310 cases Preserves, 760 rolls Matting, 18 packages Camphor Wood Trunks, 123 cases Blackwoodware, 83 cases Chinaware, 4,000 cases Preserves, 8 cases Lacquered Ware, 9 cases Silks, 100 cases Palm Leaf Fans, 3 cases Copper Gongs, 29 bales Duck Feathers, and 13 packages Sundries; for France:—85 cases Tea.

The American Ship *Lucile*, Hongkong to New York, 3rd February, took:—15,058 packages Fire Crackers, 9,825 rolls Matting, 1,000 bales Broken Cassia, 600 cases Fans, 398 bales Rattanware, 200 cases Joss Sticks, 100 cases Cassia Buds, 74 packages Rattan Furniture, 40 boxes Ginger, 40 bales Canes, 20 boxes Strawcuffs, and 566 packages Merchandise.

The steamer *Natal*, Hongkong to Continent, 6th February, took:—51 bales Raw Silk, 10 cases Silk Piece Goods, 22 cases Curios, 2 cases Samples, 75 cases Staraniseed, 100 cases Galaugal, 10 cases Cigars, 1 case Cartoons, and 1 case Glassware.

The P. & O. steamer *Java*, Hongkong to London, 7th February, took:—23 bales Duck Feathers, 50 bales Waste Silk, 326 rolls Matting, 1 case Silks, 2 cases Preserves, 125 cases Preserves, 5 cases Woodware, 20 cases Satin Palm Leaves, 14 cases Cigars, 13 cases Baggage, and 1 package Sundries; for Amsterdam:—150 chests Tea.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—Bengal.—There has been hardly anything doing during the past week. Patna is quoted at \$875 for New and at \$840 for Old, and Benares at \$842 1/2 for New and at \$825 for Old.

Malwa.—The market for this drug also has ruled dull. The following are the current figures:—New \$710 with allow'ce of 1 to 3 cts. Old (2 to 4 yrs.) \$730 " 1 to 2 " " (5 to 7 yrs.) \$740 " 1 to 2 "

Persian.—A few chests have changed hands during the interval and prices, owing to the firmness of holders, have been slightly strengthened. Oily drug closes at \$730 to \$795, and Paper-wrapped at \$780 to \$835 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—New Patna 330 chests. Old Patna 2,180 " New Benares 170 " Old Benares 1,500 " Malwa 950 " Persian 1,100 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1895.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Feb. 7	885	840	852 1/2	825	710	730/740
Feb. 8	885	840	852 1/2	825	710	730/740
Feb. 9	885	840	847 1/2	825	710	730/740
Feb. 10	880	840	847 1/2	825	710	730/740
Feb. 11	880	840	847 1/2	825	710	730/740
Feb. 12	877 1/2	840	842 1/2	825	710	730/740
Feb. 13	875	810	812 1/2	825	710	730/740

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—Low rates have led to some little business in Bengal cotton, but the market is extremely quiet. A better demand exists for Chinese staples, and sales have been made at slightly better prices. Stocks: 1,209 bales Bengal; 277 bales Rangoon, and about 1,000 bales of Chinese Cotton.

Bombay \$12.00 to 14.00 p. pel.
Kurrachee 12.00 to 14.00 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and } 12.00 to 15.00 "
Dacca, "
Shanghai and Japanese.. 16.00 to 17.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo.. 16.00 to 17.50 "
Madras 14.00 to 16.00 "
Sales: 290 bales Kurrachee, 621 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca, 1,100 bales Shanghai and Japanese, Tungchow and Ningpo.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—An active demand has been experienced from Canton and prices again show an advance. Closing quotations are:—

	per picul
Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.08 to 2.05
" Round, good quality	2.25 to 2.27
" Long	2.35 to 2.37
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	2.12 to 2.14
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	2.45 to 2.48
Siam White	2.89 to 2.91
" Fine Cargo	3.16 to 3.18

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARNS AND PIECE GOODS.—English Yarn.—40 bales No. 30/32 Red Buffalo at \$112.50, 35 bales No. 32 Black Eagle at \$112, 10 bales No. 40 Horse Head 7 R at \$116. Bombay Yarns.—20 bales No. 6 at \$73, 25 bales No. 8 at \$63.50, 1,155 bales No. 10 at \$68 to \$77, 605 bales No. 12 at \$65.50 to \$74, 55 bales No. 16 at \$77 to \$79, 1,080 bales No. 20 at \$80.50 to \$87. White Shirtings.—750 pieces Irish folds, No. 1 at \$3.65 to \$4.55, 500 pieces No. 8 at \$3.32, 25 pieces Elephant at \$4.60. Grey Shirtings.—500 pieces 10 lbs. Vase chop at \$3.65, 900 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.60, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.47, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Stag chop at \$3.62, 400 pieces 1½ lbs. Turkey Red, Peacock, at \$1.52, 200 pieces 1½ lbs. Turkey Red, Clock chop, at \$1.65, 100 pieces Turkey Red, Fluteman, at \$1.67. Camlets.—130 pieces Fisherman, assorted, at \$17.75. Spanish Stripes.—240 pieces Man and Horse at \$0.55.

METALS.—Quicksilver.—100 flasks at \$119. Tin.—100 slabs Fung Chui at \$36.80.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20 \$62.00 to \$87.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24 96.00 to 100.00
" 22 to 24 101.00 to 105.00
" 28 to 32 108.00 to 114.00
" 38 to 42 116.00 to 125.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6lbs. 1.40 to 1.50
7lbs. 1.85 to 2.05
8½ lbs. 2.40 to 3.10
9 to 10 lbs. 3.25 to 3.60
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.10 to 2.30
58 to 60 " 2.60 to 3.10
64 to 66 " 3.20 to 3.60
Fine 3.90 to 6.20
Book-folds 3.50 to 5.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards 0.60 to 1.35
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 1.40 to 1.50
7lbs. (32 ") 1.80 to 1.90
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs. 1.60 to 1.70
7lbs. (32 ") 2.05 to 2.25
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.) 2.20 to 2.90
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 4lbs. 3.20 to 4.20

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs. 1.30 to 2.70
Brocades—Dyed 3.90 to 4.95
Damasks 0.13 to 0.17
Chintzes—Assorted 3.07 to 0.12
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.21 to 0.32
Velveteens—18 in. 0.18 to 0.24

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk

0.55 to 0.90

WOOLLENS

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.55 to 0.85
German 0.95 to 1.10
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths. 1.20 to 2.60
Long Ellis—Scarlet 6.50 to 7.80
Assorted 6.60 to 7.90
Camlets—Assorted 14.00 to 29.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted } 13.50 to 21.00
Orleans—Plain 3.70 to 4.90

Blankets—8 to 12lbs.

50 to 9.00

METALS

Iron—Nail Rod 3.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar 3.20 to 3.25
Swedish Bar 4.35 to —
Small Round Rod 3.50 to —
Hoop 4.60 to —
Old Wire Rope 3.00 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 6.55 to 6.60

Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.

26.00 to 26.25

Vivian's, 16/32 oz. 25.75 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz. 25.50 to —
Japan Copper 24.50 to —

Tin 86.00 to 36.50

Tin-Plates 6.00 to —

Steel 5.50 to —

SUNDRIES AND COALS.

Quicksilver 119.00 to —

Window Glass 3.20 to —

Kerosene Oil 1.75 to —

SHANGHAI, 7th February.—(From Mr. G. W. Noel's report.)—The business done during the week has been merely to fill small orders for immediate consumption, chiefly in the River markets, White Shirtings being the most prominent in the demand, while heavy Grey Shirtings are still being taken for Japan, when suitable cloth is obtainable. Very few, if any, orders have been received for

goods to arrive, and with the exception of White Shirtings auction prices have gone considerably against the sellers. The Manchester market is far from strong, but no change is advised in quotations, which, in the absence of firm offers, must be considered nominal. The export for last month was 26 million yards, being unexpectedly small, the three previous years for the same month being 38, 48, and 42 million yards respectively. The yarn shipments amounted to 7,000 bales to Hongkong, China, and Japan, of which 1,500 bales are for the colony and 1,800 bales for this.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—(From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's report.)—8th February:—During the fortnight under review the Chinese New Year has passed over quietly and apparently without any great difficulty among the native dealers in procuring financial facilities. Business for the year has been resumed and it will be found that in spite of the grave prospects of affairs in the North, local bankers and merchants will be as keen as ever in availing themselves of every chance to profit by the fluctuations of the markets. Imports and re-exports for January even show that there has been more business moving this year than during the same period last year. Re-exports of Nailrods are piculs 13,000 against 6,350 last year; Bar Iron, piculs 1,497 against 289; Old Iron, piculs 12,460 against 7,903; Iron Wire, piculs 1,532 against 111; Lead, piculs 3,762 against 4,066. Auctions sales of Iron during the week are:—1,680 piculs Old Bale Hoops at Tls. 1.60, 1,580 piculs Old Boiler Plates at Tls. 1.65½ to Tls. 1.66, 910 piculs Old Ships Plates at Tls. 1.50, 1,200 piculs Old Cart Tyres at Tls. 1.83½, 265 piculs Old Horse-shoes at Tls. 1.770, 138 piculs Old Chains at Tls. 1.62, 714 piculs Nails road Scrap at Tls. 1.90 to Tls. 2.15, 840 piculs Steel Plate Cuttings at Tls. 1.76½, 1,000 piculs Bar Iron at Tls. 2.57½ to Tls. 2.60. Considering the circumstances prices obtained are fairly good. I have not heard of any round sales of Lead; quotations are Tls. 5.25 to Tls. 5.55. Entries of Tinplates are heavy and values likely to drop. Pig Iron is offered at a great reduction on last month's quotations.

WEDNESDAY, 13th February. EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 day's sight —
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.44
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.50

ON GERMANY.—

On Demand 1.97

ON NEW-YORK.—

Banks Bills, on demand 47½
Credits, 60 day's sight 48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 184
Bank, on demand 184½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 184
Bank, on demand 184½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Banks, at sight 71½
Private, 30 day's sight 72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand par.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 18 % pm., nom.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand par.

SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate \$10.10

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 52

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—Rates have ruled steady during the week under review and with the exception of further deals in Hongkong and Shanghai Banks we have nothing of importance to report. Market closes steady at quotations.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—The demand continuing rates gradually rose to 158 per cent. prem. with sales at that, 154, 156, and 157. Market closes with sellers at latter rate. Small sales were reported at \$160. Other Bank stock continues neglected.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Have ruled firm and we have to report a general rise. China Traders have changed hands at \$61, \$62, and \$62½, North-Chinas at Tls. 210 (in Shanghai), Unions at \$150, and Yangtszes at \$87. Cantons have ruled steady at \$155 with no sales. Straits are neglected.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have ruled steady at \$187½, and Chinas have found buyers at \$80, \$81, and \$82, closing firm at latter rate.

REFINERIES.—A small lot of China Sugars has been negotiated at \$150. Luzons continue neglected.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled weak with small sales at \$6.15, \$6.10, and \$6, closing steady. Balmorals have changed hands at \$4 and \$3.90, and Raubs at \$4.20 and \$4.30. Other Mining stock is neglected.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Docks have ruled steady at 88 and 89 per cent. prem. with sales at those rates. Lands continue in favour at \$52. Green Islands have found buyers at \$5, and Electrics at \$4.60 and \$4.50. Fenwicks are wanted at quotation.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai.	\$125	157 p. ct. pm., sales
China, Japan, &c....	\$25.0	nom. [& sellers
Do., Founders.....	\$1	\$5
Nat. Bank of Ch.		
B. Shares.....	\$8	\$18½, sellers
Foun. Shares.	\$1	nom.
Brown & Co., H. G....	\$50	\$6, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$2
China Borneo	\$55	nom.
China Sugar	\$100	\$150, sales & sellers
Chinese Loan '86 E., Tls. 250		11 p. ct. pm.
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$5, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$16, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$50	\$5, sales & sellers
H. Brick & Cement.	\$12.50	\$4, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas.	\$10	\$125
Hongkong Electric...	\$8	\$4.50, sales
H. H. L. Tramways.	\$100	\$63
Hongkong Ice.....	\$25	\$76, ex div.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$38, sellers
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$124, sellers
H. & W. Dock.....	\$125	89 p. ct. pm., sales
Hotels—		
Hongkong Hotel...	\$50	\$9, buyers
Shameen	\$20	\$4
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$156
China Fire	\$20	\$82, sales
China Traders' ...	\$25	\$62½, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire ...	\$50	\$187½, sales
North-China	\$25	Tls. 210, sellers
Straits Marine.....	\$20	\$24, sellers
Union	\$25	\$150, sales
Yangtsze	\$30	\$87, buyers
Land & Building—		
H. Land Investm't	\$50	\$52, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$8.30, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$104
West Point Buildg.	\$40	\$15, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$48, sellers
Mining—		
New Balmoral.....	\$3	\$3.90, sales & sellers
Charbonnages	\$131.58	\$75, sellers
Jelebu	\$5	\$4.75, sales & sellers
Punjom	\$3½	\$6
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.75, sellers
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$4.20, sales
Steamship Coys.—		
China & Manila ...	\$50	\$65, sellers
Douglas S. S. Co...	\$50	\$53, sellers
H., Canton, & M...	\$20	\$25½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N...	\$10	\$37
W'chai Wareh'se Co.	\$37½	\$37½, ex div.
Watson & Co., A. S...	\$10	\$10, sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 8th February:—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been sold to Hongkong at 152 per cent. premium, with exchange 72½, equal to 149 per cent. with exchange 73, and at 170 per cent. premium, for delivery on 31st May. Shares are in strong demand at 152 per cent. premium. Shipping.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares have been placed at Tls. 117½. Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.—Shares have been placed from Hongkong at \$27. Docks.—Business has been done in Boyd & Co.'s shares at Tls. 150, in S. C. Farnham & Co.'s shares at Tls. 127½, and in Hongkong and Whampoa Dock shares, from Hongkong, at 89 per cent. premium. Marine Insurance.—North-Chinas have been placed at Tls. 205 and Tls. 210, Union Insurance shares, from Hongkong, at \$145, Yangtszes at \$81, \$83, and \$88, and Straits at \$23 to Hongkong and \$24 locally. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs have been sold at \$190 and Chinas at \$80. Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
—152 per cent. prem.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.
—Nominal.
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited,
Founders.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—\$21.
National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—Nom.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 117½ per sh.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 26½ per sh.
China Mutual S. N. Co.—£50 per share.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—T. Tls. 60 per sh.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.
—\$27 per share.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$53 per share.
Shanghai Dock Co.—Tls. 550 per share.
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300 per share.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 150 per share.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 127½ per share.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—90 per cent. premium.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$60 per share.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 210 per share.
Union Ins. Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$146½ per share.
Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$88 per share.
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$155 per share.
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—\$24 per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$180 per sh.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$80 per share.
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$5½ per share.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 270 per share.
Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 37 per share.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$39½ per share.
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 1 per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6½ per share.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$1½ per share.
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$5 per sh.
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$4.15 p. sh.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 145 per share.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 122½ per sh.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 200 per share.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$4 per share.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 172½ p. sh.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 29 p. sh.
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$4154 per sh.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$48 per share.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$15 per share.
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. 36 per share.
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$52½ p. sh.
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$37½ per share.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 33½ per sh.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 25 per share.
Shanghai Sinatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 262½ p. sh.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 97½ per share.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 110 per share.
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited.—\$9½ per share.
L'Hotel des Colonies.—Tls. 20.
China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company
Debentures.—Nominal.
Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 12.
Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 250 (a).
Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).
Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).
Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 94.
(a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 13th February.—Since our last report there has been no material improvement to report in freights. Our market remains dull with scarcely any demand and rates are, if anything, slightly weaker. From Saigon to Hongkong small steamers can be placed at 15 cents per picul, but large carriers of 50,000 piculs and upwards do not command more than 12½ cents.

Bangkok rates are purely nominal at 15 cents outside and 20 cents per picul inside the bar.

Coal freights from Japan are weak; to Hongkong only small carriers are wanted at \$2 per ton. To Singapore the last rate paid was \$2.50, but further tonnage cannot be placed at present.

One steamer has been fixed to load in the Straits for the Continent; the rate obtained is, however, withheld.

There is no demand for steamers on time charter and the rate is nominally 6s. 6d. per gross registered tonnage.

For New York sailing tonnage is not wanted for immediate loading, but for April loading 16s. per ton has been paid. There is an enquiry for a vessel for Callao at about 20s. per ton.

There are two vessels disengaged in port.

The following are the settlements:—
Centennial—American ship, 1,227 tons, Singapore to Hongkong, \$8,000 in full.
Albion—German steamer, 1,365 tons, Singapore to two ports on the Continent.
Strathavon—British steamer, 1,740 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.
Parthian—British steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
Benlawers—British steamer, 1,484 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14 cents per picul.
Donar—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14½ cents per picul.
China—German steamer, 1,093 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 14½ cents per picul.
Tailees—German steamer, 828 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.
Produce—Norwegian steamer, 1,002 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to Singapore, 15 cents per picul.
Tritos—German steamer, 1,341 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya and two ports Java to Hongkong, 54 cents per picul.
Tordenskjold—Norwegian steamer, 901 tons, Takao to Yokohama, 25 cents per picul.
Tamarind—Norwegian steamer, 885 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.
Independent—German steamer, 1,003 tons, Kuchinotzu to Yokohama, \$2 per ton.
Protos—German steamer, 1,151 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.
Doris—German steamer, 517 tons, Moji to Canton, \$2.35 per ton.
Benmohr—British steamer, 1,935 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.50 per ton.
Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 956 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.30 per ton.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Ceylon (str.), Glenfalloch (str.), Telamon (str.), Japan (str.).
For LIVERPOOL.—Oceanic (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Melbourne (str.).
For HAVRE and HAMBURG.—Erato (str.).
For BREMEN.—Pring Heinrich (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.).
For VICTORIA, B.C.—Tacoma (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Belgie (str.), Tillie E. Starbuck, China (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Glenshiel (str.), St. David, Sinteram, Lucy A. Nickels.
For AUSTRALIA.—Guthrie (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—ARRIVALS.
6, Fooksang, British str., from Shanghai.
6, Decima, German str., from Port Wallut.
6, Ormiston, British str., from Singapore.
6, Irene, German cruiser, from Germany.
6, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
6, Java, British str., from Kobe.
6, Rio, German str., from Amoy.
6, Ardgay, British str., from Sourabaya.
6, Ghazee, British str., from London.
6, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
6, Moldava, British str., from Moji.
7, Elax, British str., from Singapore.
7, Saghalien, French str., from Marseilles.
7, Fokien, British str., from Swatow.
7, Nurnberg, German str., from Nagasaki.
7, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
7, Kwongmo, British str., from Amoy.
7, Pamiat Azova, Rus. cr., from Singapore.
7, Taichow, British str., from Swatow.
7, M. Jebson, German str., from Haiphong.
7, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
8, Mingyi, German str., from Shanghai.
8, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
8, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
8, Taisang, British str., from Chinkiang.
8, Gerda, German str., from Hamburg.
9, Ixion, British str., from Liverpool.
9, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Shanghai.
9, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
9, Glenorchy, British str., from London.
9, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.
10, Asloun, British str., from Saigon.
10, Drot, Norwegian str., from Batoum.
10, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., from Trieste.
10, Tamsui, British str., from Chinkiang.
10, Straits of Menai, British str., from Moji.
11, China, British str., from San Francisco.
11, Pekin, British str., from Amoy.
11, Vindobona, Austrian str., from Trieste.
11, Ancona, British str., from Japan.
11, Arroyo, British str., from Moji.
11, Brunnhilde, German str., from Chinkiang.
11, Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., from London.
11, Phra C. C. Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.
11, Riversdale, British str., from Moji.
11, Rohilla, British str., from Bombay.

11, Whampoa, British str., from Chinkiang.
11, Strathcarron, British str., from N'castle.
11, Amyong, British str., from Singapore.
11, Sutli, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
12, Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta.
12, Shantung, British str., from Shanghai.
12, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
12, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
12, Chuenshan, British str., from Bangkok.
12, Krim, Norwegian str., from Cardiff.
13, Taicheong, German str., from Aroe Bay.
13, Deuteros, German str., from Bangkok.
13, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
13, Orestes, British str., from Shanghai.
13, Rosary, British str., from Manchester.
13, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
13, Erato, German str., from Kobe.
13, Kwanglee, British str., from Shanghai.
13, Picciola, German str., from Moji.
13, Spartan, British cruiser, from Chefoo.

February—DEPARTURES.

6, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
6, Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
6, Nanyang, German str., for Shanghai.
6, Soochow, British str., for Swatow.
6, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
6, Machew, British str., for Bangkok.
6, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
7, Ask, Danish str., for Haiphong.
7, Elax, British str., for Yokohama.
7, Mascotte, British str., for Singapore.
7, Pakshan, British str., for Swatow.
7, Fushun, British str., for Canton.
7, Telamon, British str., for Singapore.
7, Activ, Danish str., for Hoihow.
7, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
7, China, German str., for Saigon.
7, Ayr, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
7, Java, British str., for London.
8, Darmstadt, German str., for Europe.
8, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
8, Saghalien, French str., for Shanghai.
8, Taichow, British str., for Bangkok.
8, Amigo, German str., for Saigon.
8, Continental, Dutch str., for Manila.
8, Ghazee, British str., for Shanghai.
8, Mingyi, German str., for Canton.
8, Ormiston, British str., for Shanghai.
8, Produce, Norw. str., for Saigon.
8, Tamarind, Norw. str., for Hongay.
9, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
9, Irene, German cruiser, for Chefoo.
9, Progress Ger. str., for Honcho Bay.
9, Bango, Portuguese g-bt., for Macao.
9, Benlarig, British str., for Kobe.
9, Decima, German str., for P. Wallut.
9, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
9, Kara, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
9, Kwongmo, British str., for Amoy.
10, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
10, Donar, German str., for Saigon.
10, Fokien, British str., for Swatow.
10, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
10, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
10, Moldava, British str., for Moji.
11, Taiyuan, British str., for Sydney.
10, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
11, Fooksang, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Amoy.
11, Tamsui, British str., for Canton.
12, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
12, Ixion, British str., for Amoy.
12, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
12, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., for Trieste.
12, A. Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
12, Brunnhilde, German str., for Canton.
12, Pekin, British str., for Amoy.
12, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.
12, Rohilla, British str., for Shanghai.
13, Vindobona, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
13, Pamiat Azova, Russian cr., for Nagasaki.
13, Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., for Nagasaki.
13, Nanyang, British str., for Swatow.
13, Kwanglee, British str., for Canton.
13, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
13, Shantung, British str., for Shanghai.
13, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.

FOOCHOW.

ARRIVALS.

January—
25, Orient, German bark, from Amoy.
27, Tsinan, British str., from Hongkong.
30, Namoa, British str., from Hongkong.

DEPARTURES.

January—
31, Tsinan, British str., for Shanghai.
31, Taku, British str., for Shanghai.

February—
1, Namoa, British str., for Hongkong.